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Thousands ordered to leave as Northern California fire rages

By JOCELYN GECKER and **NOAH BERGER Associated Press**

GEYSERVILLE, Calif. (AP)

- Officials ordered 2,000 people to evacuate their homes and businesses in Northern California wine country Thursday after a wildfire exploded in size, fueled by powerful winds that prompted utilities throughout the state to impose electrical blackouts to prevent fires.

The entire community of Geyserville and nearby residents were told to leave after the fire in the Sonoma County wine region north of San Francisco grew to more than 15 square miles (39 square kilometers).

Among those fleeing the flames was 81-yearold Harry Bosworth, who awoke before sunrise to find a firetruck and firefighters in his driveway. As he and his wife drove off, flames surrounded their driveway and their barn caught fire.

"I could see the fire coming, so we got the heck out of there," Bosworth said. The fire started Wednesday night near the Geysers, the



Vines surround a burning building as the Kincade Fire burns through the Jimtown community of unincorporated Sonoma County, Calif., on Thursday, Oct. 24, 2019.

mal field where nearly two dozen power plants draw steam from more than 350 mountain wells to create electricity, said Mike Parkes, incident commander with

of Forestry and Fire Protection. The cause of the blaze was not yet known, he said, but it was fueled overnight by 60 mph (95 kph) winds. The rugged terrain was the California Department hard to access, he said,

and by Thursday afternoon, the blaze raged on the outskirts of Geyserville.

There were no immediate reports of any injuries. Authorities did not yet know how many buildings were

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destroyed. Some people were refusing to leave despite the dangers, Sonoma County Sheriff Mark Essick said.

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Trump confronts the limits of impeachment defense strategy

By ZEKE MILLER, JILL COLVIN and JONATHAN LEMIRE Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump is confronting the limits of his main impeachment defense.

As the probe hits the onemonth mark, Trump and his aides have largely ignored the details of the Ukraine allegations against him. Instead, they're loudly objecting to the House Democrats' investigation process, using that as justification for ordering administration officials not to cooperate and complaining about what they deem prejudicial, even unconstitutional, secrecy.

But as a near-daily drip of derogatory evidence emerges from closed-door testimony on Capitol Hill, the White House assertion that the proceedings are unfair is proving to be a less-than-compelling counter to the mounting threat to Trump's presidency. Some senior officials have complied with congressional subpoenas to assist House Democratic investigators, defying White



Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, one of President Donald Trump's chief GOP allies, says he will introduce a resolution condemning the Democratic-controlled House for pursuing a "closed door, illegitimate impeachment inquiry," during a news conference at the Capitol in Washington, Thursday, Oct. 24, 2019.

House orders. Asked about criticism that the White House lacks a coordinated pushback effort and could do a better job delivering its message, spokeswoman Stephanie Grisham said, "It's hard to message anything that's going on behind closed doors and in secret."

"It's like you're fighting a ghost, you're fighting against the air. So we're doing the best we can," she said on Fox News.

It was a rare public admis-

sion from the White House that despite the president's bravado, real risks remain. White House officials, who have been treating unified Republican support for Trump as a given, have grown increasingly fearful of GOP defections in a House impeachment vote and a potential Senate trial. While they do not believe there will be enough votes to remove the president, as Democrats hope, the West Wing believes more must be done to shore up Republican support to avoid embarrassment and genuine political peril.

Trump himself has been upset with his own top aides - including Grisham and acting chief of staff Mick Mulvaney — for not sufficiently changing the story line. Instead he relies on his Twitter account and Q&A sessions with reporters to launch daily attacks on the probe. And while Trump's personal lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, has added to the smoke screen, much as he did during the Russia probe, the former New York City mayor has dramatically scaled back his media appearances since several of his associates were arrested in connection with Ukraine. Complaining privately and publicly that Democrats "stick together" better than the GOP, Trump has leaned on Republican congressional allies to do more, according to White House officials and Republicans close to the West Wing. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not au-

thorized to publicly discuss

Associated Press

private conversations. At first, Trump was angry that his surrogates failed to defend him effectively. Those included House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, who stumbled through a "60 Minutes" interview. Trump urged the GOP earlier this week to fight back, a lesson that was taken to heart by a group of conservative Republicans, including members of the Freedom Caucus, who stormed a Capitol Hill hearing room on Wednesday to disrupt testimony in the probe.

Trump allies cheered that maneuver, believing it showed that Republicans throughout Washington were coming to grips with the severity of the situation. But the GOP complaints still are largely about process and may have limited potency: Trump's defenders are complaining that the interviews are being conducted in secret, which may soon change, and

that Republicans are not involved, though GOP members can ask questions right alongside the Democrats. The contradictions are tell-

On Thursday, GOP Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, a top ally of Trump, introduced a resolution condemning the Democratic-controlled House for pursuing a "closed door, illegitimate impeachment inquiry." Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell is a co-sponsor of that measure.

But Graham also said he's talked to Mulvaney about what seems to be a lackluster White House pushback. During President Bill Clinton's impeachment, Graham said, "he had a team that was organized, had legal minds that could understand what was being said versus the legal proceedings in question. And they were on message every day." Republicans have been complaining for weeks that the Trump White House has no such defense system in place — partly a result of the inability to identify qualified talent but also Trump's own qualms about projecting concern in the face of the investigation.

"I think they're working on getting a messaging team together," Graham said.

Democrats reject Trump arguments that the House interview process is unfair, and White House officials privately acknowledge their legal objections may not win the day. But they believe it's a political argument that will hold sway with the American people. However, the White House strategy comes with an expiration date: In coming weeks, the closed-door testimony will give way to public hearings. Democrats are expected to call a narrow group of witnesses to testify that Trump encouraged Ukraine to conduct investiaations that could benefit him politically in 2020 and to address whether those requests were tied to conditions for giving Ukraine military aid and a White House meeting.







Thousands ordered to leave as Northern California fire rages

Continued from Front

"Please heed our evacuation order," he said in a televised news conference. "We really need to be able to fight the fire, rather than worrying about rescuing you." The fire raged amid rolling blackouts that utilities in California have said are designed to keep winds that could top 70 mph (113 kph) from knocking branches into power lines or toppling them, sparking wildfires. Electrical equipment was blamed for setting several blazes in recent years that killed scores of people and burned thousands of homes.

The state's largest electric utility, Pacific Gas & Electric, filed for bankruptcy protection in January as it faced billions of dollars of damages from such wildfires. The investor-owned energy company has set aside billions of dollars for insurance companies and

a public backlash over its handling of the incidents. PG&E announced Wednes-

day that it would begin rolling power outages, lasting for 48 hours, in parts of Northern California in anticipation of dangerous fire conditions, includunseasonably hot weather and low humidity combined with the strong winds. PG&E spokesman Paul Doherty said parts of Geyserville lost power as scheduled Wednesday.

Other utilities also cut power Wednesday and Thursday to some residents in Southern California, where at least two fires had erupted. Those blazes have remained small.

Many Geyserville residents, including Bosworth, lived through fires that tore through the same area two years ago, killing 44 people. Ceglarski-Sherwin Mary and her husband, Matt Ceglarski-Sherwin, lost their

wildfire victims while facing Santa Rosa rental home during one of those fires and fled the flames again Thursday after Mary's asthma awakened her around 2:30 a.m. Their power was still on when they grabbed their small dogs, some clothes and emergency kits they acquired during the last fire.

> "I told him, 'We gotta go, we gotta go; I can feel it changing," Mary Ceglarski-Sherwin told the Santa Rosa Press-Democrat. "By the time we got out there, we could feel the heat and see the smoke.""

> The fire also threatened some of the area's famed wineries. The Francis Ford Coppola Winery posted on Facebook that its property was without power but "not currently in danger." The Robert Young Estate Winery said in an 8 a.m. post that "there is fire on our property" affecting brush and pasture areas but not structures or people.



A firefighter sprays water on a burning home as the Kincade Fire burns through the Jimtown community of unincorporated Sonoma County, Calif., on Thursday, Oct. 24, 2019.

Associated Press

nounced that the state had secured a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to help fight the fire. He did 180,000 customers. not say how money the state would get.

Newsom, a Democrat, is among those who have criticized PG&E and other utilities for the rolling blackouts and their handling of wildfire dangers. PG&E's power outages stretched

Gov. Gavin Newsom an- from the Sierra foothills in the northeast to portions of the San Francisco Bay Area, affecting a halfmillion people — or nearly

In Southern California, hot and dry Santa Ana winds prompted Southern California Edison to cut power to more than 15,000 customers. The utility was considering additional power cuts to more than 286,000 customers.





Pence takes swipe at NBA, Nike in critical speech on China

By DEB RIECHMANN **Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Vice President Mike Pence took a swipe at Nike and the NBA on Thursday in a speech criticizing communist China's record on trade and human rights, saying corporations American have been too willing to ignore censorship and repression in pursuit of profits. Pence sinaled out the shoe company for removing Houston Rockets merchandise from stores in China after the team's general manager angered the Chi-

tweet supporting anti-government protesters in Hong Kong.

The NBA was acting like a "wholly owned subsidiary" of China's "authoritarian regime" for failing to stand up to the government's criticism of Rockets General Manager Daryl Morey, he said.

"Nike promotes itself as a so-called 'social-justice champion,' but when it comes to Hong Kong, it prefers checking its social conscience at the door," the vice president said in

nese government with a a speech laying out the Trump administration's approach to China.

> The speech was delivered as President Donald Trump seeks to close a new trade deal with China, with Pence cast in a hard-line role. He criticized past administrations for tolerating unfair economic and trade practices and repressing Chinese citizens.

> Trump has done business in several countries with poor human rights records. He received as much as \$1 million last year for soaring twin towers bearing his name in



Vice President Mike Pence discusses U.S. and China relations Thursday, Oct. 24, 2019, at the Wilson Center's inaugural Frederic V. Malek Public Service Leadership Lecture, in Washington. **Associated Press**

Turkey, where the president has imprisoned more than 150 journalists since a failed coup three years ago. And before he ended the venture three years ago, Trump earned millions for licensing his name for a building in Azerbaijan, whose government has imprisoned dozens of critics, journalists and activists, according to Human Rights Watch.

Trump has planted the seeds for possible future business in China, too. Since he took over as president, Trump and his daughter Ivanka have won dozens of trademarks from the Chinese government for exclusive use of various names for restaurants, bars, hotels, clothing and shoes, and other products and services in the country.

Trump's administration has also escalated pressure on Chinese trade, foreign and economic policies, including a tit-for-tat exchange of trade tariffs on billions of products.

On Oct. 11, the United States and China reached

a tentative cease-fire in their trade dispute. The Trump administration agreed to suspend plans to raise tariffs on \$250 billion in Chinese imports from 25% to 30% on Oct. 15, and China agreed to buy more U.S. farm products.

Negotiators are still working out details of the modest "phase one" deal in time for Trump and his Chinese counterpart, Xi Jinping, to sign it at an Asia-Pacific summit next month in Santiago, Chile. But the big issues dividing the world's two biggest economies — most involving China's aggressive push to challenge U.S. technological dominance - remain unresolved.

Pence said the FBI has 1,000 active investigations into intellectual property theft, the majority involving China. In March, Tesla sued a former engineer accused of stealing 300,000 files related to an autopilot system before bolting for a job at a Chinese self-driving car company, he said.





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Report: Philadelphia inspector facing sex assault charges

By MARYCLAIRE DALE **Associated Press**

A Philadelphia police inspector is facing charges he sexually assaulted three female officers, the latest development in a department plagued by sexual misconduct allegations that fueled the police commissioner's recent resigna-

A grand jury probe determined that Inspector Carl Holmes, 54, abused his power after mentoring female officers at the police academy and in other roles, District Attorney Larry Krasner's office announced.

The charges come two years after the city settled a female detective's sexual harassment lawsuit involving Holmes for \$1.25 million. "According to the presentment, Holmes' position as a high-ranking officer at PPD insulated him from any meaningful investigation; all three of the young female police officers were subjected to investigations by the Internal Affairs Divi-

sion," the office said in a tem is broken and must be statement. "The grand jury alleges that PPD culture discourages reporting a fellow officer, especially a boss."

Holmes surrendered to police Thursday morning, was suspended and was expected to be arraigned later in the day. It was not clear if he had retained a lawyer.

Carol Tracy, executive director of the Women's Law Center, which has pushed to reform the way Philadelphia police classify and investigate sex assault cases, said the alleged crimes against the department's own officers amount to "institutional betrayal.""Sexual assault and harassment are awful in any workplace, but its impact in law enforcement — like the military — can be far more severe because rank provides opportunity to retaliate," Tracy said. "That the police department protected and even promoted abusers in spite of credible complaints is inexcusable. Clearly the internal accountability sysfixed."

City Controller Rebecca Rhynhart issued a scathing report last year that found sexual harassment policies in city government convoluted, inconsistent and ineffective. Mayor Jim Kenney updated city policies and promised improvements.

However, in August, he reluctantly accepted the resignation of popular Police Commissioner Richard Ross, conceding that he had not attacked the problem quickly enough.

Ross resigned amid allegations that he had failed to investigate Cpl. Audra McCowan's sexual harassment claims against another supervisor because he had once dated her. Mc-Cowan, a 15-year veteran, resigned this month rather than return from a stressrelated medical leave, saying she felt ostracized and feared further retaliation.

She and a female colleague, who alleged unwanted touching, verbal harassment and efforts



This undated photo from the Philadelphia Police Department shows Philadelphia Police inspector Carl Holmes.

Associated Press

to tamper with pumped breast milk, have filed a federal lawsuit against the city. Their lawyer, lan Bryson, said he hoped the arrest Thursday "is the mark of continued progress for women in the Philadelphia Police Department."?

Holmes has at least twice before been accused of sexual assault by female officers. Besides the woman involved in the 2017 settlement, another female officer has said publicly that Holmes sexually assaulted her in 2008. He has previously denied those allegations.

It was not known if the charges filed Thursday involve those same accusers. Mike Neilon, a spokesman for the Philadelphia police union, said the union would not be providing Holmes with legal counsel. The union otherwise declined

No deal, more fallout in week-long Chicago teacher strike

CHICAGO (AP) — Classes will be canceled again Friday after Chicago Public Schools and the teachers' union failed to reach a deal to end a week-long strike in the nation's thirdlargest school district. Both sides said Thursday they've made progress at the bargaining table but disagreements remain on big issues such as class sizes and staffing. Among those feeling the fallout are studentathletes, who under state rules may not be allowed to participate in upcoming state competitions in cross country, football and other sports if the strike continues.

Thursday, as the parent of a sophomore cross country team member filed a request for a temporary restraining order in Cook County Court to allow the Jones College Prep team to compete in state playoffs this weekend. Kevin Sterling, who is an attorney, said some athletes had college scholarships on the teachers say currently exline, and that the kids had ceed 30 or 40 students in become "collateral damage" in the dispute between CPS and the union. Teachers and other staff also say they're feeling the financial pinch of not receiving wages for the time they are not in school. Un-That prompted legal action like some other unions, CTU

does not have a strike fund to partially compensate members who are on the picket lines. The American Federation of Teachers has started a "strike solidarity fund" for people who want to donate to help teachers. The union wants CPS to put in writing a commitment to smaller class sizes, which some schools, and to staff each school with a nurse, librarian and social worker. CPS says it's taken steps toward meeting those goals but has a responsibility to taxpayers and students to ensure the district is financially stable.



Thousands of striking Chicago Teachers Union and their supporters march at City Hall before Mayor Lori Lightfoot was scheduled to deliver her first budget address during the monthly Chicago City Council meeting, Wednesday, Oct. 23, 2019.

Associated Press



Census report: U.S. population will get older, more diverse

BV MIKE SCHNEIDER Associated Press

The U.S. population will grow older and more diverse over the next four decades, according to new Census Bureau projections presented Thursday at a meeting of demographers. As the U.S. median age increases, there will be a smaller ratio of workers in the labor force able to pay the payroll tax that funds Social Security payments to people of retirement age. In 15 years, the number of people over age 65 will be larger than the number of children for the first time in U.S. history, according to the presentation at a Southern Demographic Association meeting in New Orleans.

"demographic tidal wave" is one big reason for the nation's expected aging and the eventual drop in natural population increase from births outpacing deaths. That wave is the Baby Boomers, born between the end of World War Two and around the time of the American invasion of The Beatles.

"The youngest Baby Boomers are 55 and older now, said Allison Plyer, a demographer attending the meeting. "In 10 years, they will be 65 and older, and as those folks pass away over the decades, that's a very larger section of our population reaching an age where



In this June 21, 2019, file photo, commuters walk through a corridor in the World Trade Center Transportation Hub, in New York.

they will likely experience mortality," Plyer said.

As the U.S. grows older, it will also become more diverse, with children leading the way. By next year, no single race group alone will make up more than half of U.S. children, the projections show.

Although non-Hispanic whites currently are a majority in the U.S., their numbers will dip below 50% of the population in 40 years, declining from 199 million next year to 179 million in

2060, the projections show. "Immigrants do continue to fill in the ranks of workingage population and workforce as the Baby Boomers age," Plyer said. "The most likely people to replace them will be people of color, particularly Latinos who are already here and have children."

People who identify as two or more races will be the fastest-growing group in the next 40 years, with their population expanding as births outpace deaths.

Associated Press

Other fast-growing groups include Asians, growth will be driven by migration, and Hispanics, whose growth in the U.S. will be driven by natural increases, according to the projections.

The U.S. is expected to cross the 400 million-person threshold by 2058, as it adds 79 million more people in 40 years, but annual growth will slow down. The U.S. has about 326 million people today.

Population growth, cur-

rently 2.3 million people per year, is expected to slow to 1.6 million people a year by 2060.

Growth comes from immigration and from births outpacing deaths, but that natural increase will decline as the nation ages. The nation's median age is expected to go from 38 today to 43 by 2060.

Young adults are getting married and having children at older ages than their parents and grandparents, and they won't be having children in the numbers to replace the Baby Boomers, said Andrew Beveridge, a demographer at the City University of New York. As the number of people over age 65 grows, the share of working-age adults — who pay, along with their employers, for Social Security through a payroll tax — will also decline. Next year, there are expected to be 3.5 working-age adults for every person of retirement age, but that ratio declines to 2.5 by 2060, according to the projections.

That ratio will put the U.S. more in line with Europe, though it won't be as severe as in Japan, which for years has had an aging population without the help of migration to add to the population, the demographers said.

"It's definitely a shift, but we're not going to be like Japan," Beveridge said.

☐

Fewer U.S. children in foster care; first drop since 2012

By DAVID CRARY **AP National Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) — The number of children in the U.S. foster care system has dropped for the first time since 2012, stemming a surge that was linked to substance abuse by parents, according to new federal data released on Thursday.

The annual report from the Department of Health and Human Services counted 437,283 children in foster care as of Sept. 30, 2018, down from about 441,000 a year earlier.

The peak was 524,000 children in foster care in 2002.

number dropped steadily to about 396,000 in 2012 before rising again as the opioid epidemic and other forms of drug abuse began to worsen across the U.S. The new data also showed that a record 63,100 children were adopted out of the U.S. child in 2017.

However, the number of children in foster care waiting to be adopted also increased, rising from 123,754 to 125,400.

HHS officials said they were encouraged by the slight decrease in the number of

children in foster care. They credited the expansion of prevention programs aimed at supporting families before a need arises to remove a child from their home. "We hope to see a continued indication that child welfare systems are relying less on foster care welfare system in the 2018 and serving more chilfiscal year, up from 59,500 dren and families in their home and communities," said Jerry Milner, associate commissioner of HHS's Children's Bureau.

> The biggest decreases in the foster care population occurred in Arizona and Inthe states where the num-

bers had soared earlier in this decade. Parental neglect was the most common reason for children to be removed from their homes in 2018 — a factor in placing about 163,500 children into foster care. About 94,400 children were removed because of parental substance abuse, up from 92.100 in 2017.

About 10% of foster children were residing in institutions or group homes at the close of the 2018 fiscal year — down from 14% in 2015 and reflecting new policies aimed at reducing the use diana, which were among of so-called congregate care. About 17,000 youths in their late teens aged out of the system in 2018 without being placed with permanent families.

During the surge in the foster care population, many state child welfare agencies struggled to recruit an adequate number of foster parents. A recent survey by the Chronicle of Social change, which tracks foster-care trends nationwide, found that the total number of licensed foster homes in the U.S. had increased from 2018 to 2019. However, the Chronicle said the number of licensed homes declined by more than 10% in 11 states.



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NYPD: Suspect's bullet struck officer who was saved by vest

By MICHAEL R. SISAK **Associated Press**

NEW YORK (AP) — A naked man wielding a handgun in a New York City apartment building shot at a police officer, striking his bulletproof vest, before officers killed the man in a hail of gunfire, police said Thursday. The announcement came amid speculation about another case of friendly fire, the cause of two officer deaths this year.

Security video of the hallway clash early Wednesday in Harlem shows Officer Christopher Wintermute in a wild standoff with the man, identified by police as 29-year-old Victor Hernandez, the apartment building's superintendent and the son of an NYPD

officer. In a short clip released by police, both men are seen with guns drawn before Wintermute falls to the ground.

Deputy Chief Kevin Maloney, of the NYPD's Force Investigation Division, said ballistics tests linked the bullet that hit Officer Christopher Wintermute's vest to Hernandez's gun — a 9mm semiautomatic pistol that dropped to the floor moments later as he struggled with the officer. The shot damaged Wintermute's body-worn camera, but the vest saved him from serious harm or death.

As they continued to fight, Hernandez punched Wintermute in the face and tried to grab the officer's gun, Maloney said. Wintermute and two other officers opened fire, shooting a total of 17 times and striking Hernandez 10 times, Maloney said.

Wintermute was treated at a hospital and released the same day.

Hernandez's mother, a police officer, called for an independent investigation into her son's death. The NYPD says Manhattan DA's office will review the shooting. Eight uniformed officers responded to the apartment building shortly before 2 a.m. after a resident called 911 about a neighbor who was harassing her and acting erratically.

Hernandez, who had a history of domestic violence arrests, had been banging on a woman's door and



Deputy Chief Kevin Maloney, commander of the Force Investigation Division, speaks during a news conference at New York City Police Department headquarters, in New York, Thursday, Oct. 24, 2019.

Associated Press

breaking glass, police said. He then retreated down a hallway and assumed a shooting position for two or three minutes before Wintermute encountered him, Maloney said.

It was the fourth shooting — third fatal — by New York police officers in a nine-day span. So far this year, NYPD officers have shot at suspects on 22 occasions, killing 10 of them. Last year, the department achieved a record low of officer shootings, when officers fired at suspects on 12 occasions, resulting in 4 deaths.

"We certainly have had a recent uptick in the number of officer-involved shootings," Maloney said, adding that the latest incidents would be reviewed for possible adjustments to officer trainina.

On Oct. 14, police fatally shot an armed man in Brooklyn as he fired a gun at another man. Hours later, officers wounded an armed man on a subway platform in the Bronx.

On Oct. 17, a sergeant shot and killed a motorist in the Bronx who police say struggled violently with officers after he was pulled over for not wearing a seat belt.

In the Harlem shooting, Maloney said there wasn't time to call in specialized units that deal with emotionally disturbed people. Hernandez wasn't holed up in an apartment and was an immediate threat to Wintermute by pointing a gun at him and firing, Maloney said.

Police initially said they weren't sure who shot Wintermute, fueling speculation that he may have been struck by another officer's bullet.

In September, Officer Brian Mulkeen was fatally struck by two police bullets while strugaling with an armed man in the Bronx. In February, Detective Brian Simonsen was hit once in the chest and killed by crossfire as he and six other officers fired at a robbery suspect armed with a fake handaun in Queens.

Southern drought shows first improvement in weeks

By JAY REEVES **Associated Press** BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) —

A fast-developing "flash drought" that threatened crops and helped spark wildfires across the South is showing the first real improvement in weeks, according to a new report Thursday. The latest assessment from the National Drought Mitigation Center said more than a quarter of the Southeast was droughtfree, an improvement of more than 10 percentage points in a week. As much as 5 inches (12.7 centimeters) of rain from Tropical Storm Nestor helped douse the drought. Meanwhile, forecasters said additional heavy rains could inundate



Ralph LoBue braves the wind at the end of the Okaloosa Island rishing Pier near Fort Walton Beach, Fla., as he takes a picture of his son, Danny, and the fish he caught on Friday, Oct. 18, 2019. **Associated Press**

the region this weekend. More than 100 high schools in at least seven states moved up football games a day because of a rainy forecast for Friday night.

centimeters) of rain is possible by Sunday over a wide part of Mississippi, the weather service said, and most of Alabama could receive 2 to 4 inches (5 to 10 As much as 6 inches (15 centimeters) of rain.



UK's Johnson seeks Dec 12 election to break Brexit impasse

By JILL LAWLESS **Associated Press**

LONDON (AP) — British Prime Minister Boris Johnson has finally abandoned his promise of an October Brexit and pinned his hopes on a December election.

Two days after lawmakers stymied Johnson's latest attempt to pass his European Union divorce deal, he said Thursday that the only way to break Britain's Brexit impasse was a general election. Johnson said he would ask lawmakers to vote Monday on a motion calling a national poll for Dec. 12.

To hold an election Johnson must win a vote — by a two-thirds majority among lawmakers, who have already dealt him a series of setbacks and derailed his promise to take Britain out of the EU on the scheduled date of Oct. 31 "come what may."

The most recent blow came Tuesday, when lawmakers blocked Johnson's attempt to fast-track an EU divorce bill through Parliament in a matter of days, saying they needed more time to scru-



Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson leaves 10 Downing Street, on his way to parliament in London, Thursday October 24, 2019.

tinize the legislation. Britain's next scheduled election is in 2022. To secure an early election, Johnson needs either to win a vote in Parliament, or lose a noconfidence vote, which so far opposition parties have refused to call.

The main opposition Labour Party said Wednesday it will "support a general election when the threat of a no-deal crash-out is off the table." It had no immediate response to Johnson's statement on Thursday.

Johnson said it would be

Associated Press

"morally incredible" if opposition lawmakers blocked an election. "It is time, frankly, for this Parliament to make way for a new, fresh Parliament that can deliver on the priorities of the British people," he said. An election can only be held if the EU garees to postpone the U.K.'s departure to prevent a chaotic no-deal exit. Johnson grudgingly asked for a delay until Jan. 31 on the orders of Britain's Parliament, which wants to avert the economic damage that could come from a nodeal exit. Though the bloc has not yet given its answer, Johnson said it looked like the EU would grant the delay. "I'm afraid it looks as though our EU friends are going to respond to Parliament's request by havina an extension, which I really don't want at all," he said. European Council President Donald Tusk has recommended that the other 27 EU nations grant Britain a delay, yet many of the bloc's members are weary and frustrated at Britain's interminable Brexit melodrama. But they also want to avoid the economic pain that would come to both sides from a sudden and disruptive British exit.

So they are likely to agree, although politicians

France say President Emmanuel Macron is pushing for a shorter extension than the three months that Britain has asked for.

Johnson has vowed that, sooner or later, the U.K. will leave the EU on the terms of the deal he negotiated with the bloc. He said the Dec. 12 election date would give lawmakers more time to scrutinize his bill, because Parliament would be in session until the formal campaign started on Nov. 6. If lawmakers refuse to approve his deal, Johnson hopes an election will deliver a majority for his Conservative Party, enabling him more easily to deliver on his plans.

Meanwhile, U.K. police and politicians have sounded alarms about what could happen in Northern Ireland under Johnson's proposed Brexit deal, with the region's police chief warning that a badly handled divorce from the European Union could bring violence back onto the streets.

Police have long warned that if Britain's departure from the EU imposes a hard border between the U.K.'s Northern Ireland and EU member Ireland, that could embolden Irish Republican Army splinter groups who are opposed to Northern Ireland's peace process and power-sharing government.

Police Service of Northern Ireland Chief Constable Simon Byrne told the BBC that there also was potential for unrest among Northern Ireland's pro-British loyalist community. He said, depending on how Brexit unfolded, there could be "a lot of emotion in loyalist communities and the potential for civil disorder."

"There are a small number of people in both the loyalist and nationalist communities that are motivated by their own ideology and that have the potential to bring violence back onto the streets," he said.

The all-but invisible Irish border now underpins both the regional economy and the peace process that ended decades of violence in Northern Ireland.



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Spain begins exhuming late dictator Gen. Franco's remains

BY CIARAN GILES Associated Press

MADRID (AP) — Spain is exhuming the remains of Spanish dictator Gen. Francisco Franco from his grandiose mausoleum outside Madrid so he can be reburied in a small family crypt north of the capital.

The government-ordered, closed-door operation on Thursday satisfies a decades-old desire of many in Spain who considered the vainglorious mausoleum that Franco built an affront to the tens of thousands who died in Spain's Civil War and his subsequent regime and to Spain's standina as a modern democratic state.

The event, which has been criticized by some conservatives, was broadcast live by Spain's main TV channels and media websites.

Franco's coffin was being extracted from under marble slabs and two tons of granite. Depending on the weather, it was to be taken by helicopter or hearse to Mingorrubio cemetery where his wife is buried — a



People carrying a banner reading in Spanish "Franco is alive" and holding a pre-constitutional Spanish flag stand outside the Fallen mausoleum near El Escorial, outskirts of Madrid, Thursday, Oct. 24, 2019.

In a bid to guarantee privacy and avoid the actual exhumation operation being videoed and posted on social media, the government banned cameras and mobile phones among

57-kilometer (35-mile) drive the 22 Franco family members, government authorities and workers allowed into the mausoleum.

> Fearing disturbances, the government banned a demonstration against the exhumation by Franco supporters at the Mingorrubio

Associated Press

cemetery although some 400 people, some waving Franco-era flags and symbols and chanting "Viva Franco" gathered near the cemetery while police looked on.

Macarena Martínez Bordiu, a distant relative of the dictator, said she felt "outraged" with what was happening and accused the government of "desecrating a tomb."

Ex-Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero told Spanish national television that the exhumation "has great significance for our democracy. Today our democracy is more perfect."

According to the Spanish daily newspaper El Pais, it's a major moment for the country: "Spain finishes with the last major symbol of the dictatorship," it said in its main headline to its print edition Thursday.

The exhumation and reburial will not put an end to Franco's legacy on Spain's political scene, since it comes just weeks ahead of the country's Nov. 10 general election.

Franco ruled Spain between 1939 and 1975, after he and other officers led a military insurrection against the Spanish democratic government in 1936, a move that started a threeyear civil war.

Greek police clash with students protesting business reforms

By DEREK GATOPOULOS **COSTAS KANTOURIS Associated Press**

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Police clashed with students in Greece's two largest cities Thursday amid strikes and street protests against a planned overhaul of business rules by the new conservative government.

In Athens, one protester and one policeman were hurt when a confrontation between students and police turned violent outside parliament. Police used tear gas to disperse the demonstrators.

Clashes also occurred during a student protest in the northern city of Thessaloniki. No arrests were reported.

The three-month-old government of Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis says the reforms will simplify regulations and boost investment be eroded by the reforms, as Greece emerges from a protracted financial crisis.

Mitsotakis wants to boost growth with more aggressive pro-business policies, promising to deliver 2.8% growth next year, higher than the European Commission's forecast of 2.2%. His government is also hoping that the reforms will help persuade European creditors to ease repayment conditions debts from three consecutive international bailouts.

But unions argue that longstanding workers' rights will including the right to negotiate pay through collective bargaining with employers. Critics also oppose the expanded use of private sector services at local government agencies and argue that the value of qualifications from state-run universities may be undermined.



University students clash with the riot police during a protest outside the Ministry of Macedonia and Thrace in the northern Greek port city of Thessaloniki, Thursday, Oct. 24, 2019.

Associated Press

Municipal workers continued a strike for a second day, disrupted garbage collection and other services in Athens and elsewhere. More than 2,000 munici-

pal workers marched to Greece's parliament. During the rally, some of the protest organizers carried an empty coffin and wore masks.



Syria says Turkish-led forces attacked its troops

By BASSEM MROUE Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Turkish forces and their allies attacked Syrian government troops in northeastern Syria on Thursday, killing some of them, and they also clashed with Kurdish-led fighters, the state news agency in Damascus and a war monitoring group said.

The fighting underscored the risks of violence as multiple and often opposing armed forces jostle for new positions in the tight quarters of the northeastern border zone.

Most worrisome has been the prospect of a collision between forces of the Syrian government' and those backed by Turkey, which include Syrian rebel fighters and Islamic extremists opposed to President Bashar Assad.

All sides have said they are abiding by a cease-fire as they implement a Russian-Turkish agreement that divides up the border region. But frictions could undermine the effort for a resolution on the border, which U.S. forces were abruptly



Russian forces patrol in the city of Amuda, north Syria, Thursday, Oct. 24, 2019.

Associated Press

ordered to leave earlier this month, allowing Turkey to launch its invasion against Kurdish fighters.

Syria's state-run SANA news agency said Turkish troops and its allied fighters attacked Syrian army positions outside the town of Tal Tamr. The Syrian troops fought back and suffered "martyrs and wounded," it

reported without elaborating. Separately, the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces said three of its fighters were killed in fighting with Turkish-backed forces. Syrian forces, Russian military advisers and military police are being deployed in a zone 30 kilometers (19 miles) deep along much of the northeastern border, under an agreement reached Tuesday by Russia and Turkey. They are to ensure that Kurdish fighters leave that area. Then Russia and Turkey are to begin joint patrols along a narrower strip directly on the Turkish-Syrian border.

Turkey is to keep sole control of a large section in the center of the border, most of which it captured in its invasion launched Oct. 9. Turkey wanted to drive the U.S.-allied Kurdish forces out of a "safe zone" along the border after U.S. President Donald Trump pulled American troops from the grea

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan renewed a threat to resume the military offensive if his country continued to be "harassed" by the Kurdish militia. He also said Turkey would "crush" any Syrian Kurdish fighter its military comes across while trying to secure areas under its control.

"We would never shy away from moving ahead on our path. We would never calculate whether the price to pay on this path would be too high or too low," Erdogan said. He also warned against the possibility of Syrian Kurdish fighters resuming fighting alongside U.S., Russian or Syrian government forces.

"Turkey put us all in a very terrible situation. I think the incursion was unwarranted," he said. "I think President Erdogan was fixated on making this incursion for one reason or another and there was not a possibility that we were going to start a war with a NATO ally."

The commander of the Kurdish-led force, Mazloum Abdi, said Trump had assured him in a phone call that American forces will "stay here for a long time and their partnership with Syrian Democratic Forces will continue for a long time." He told journalists that his force and the U.S. were discussing "how to take positions again in some areas of northeast Syria."

Erdogan, meanwhile, told Turkey's state television TRT that the U.S. should hand Abdi over to Turkey, calling him a "terrorist" wanted in Turkey. Turkish media reports said Turkey holds him responsible for a 2008 attack in southeastern Turkey that killed 17 soldiers.

Trump has said some U.S. troops will remain in Syria to help the Kurds guard oil fields in the east. The Kurd-

ish fighters captured the main fields from the Islamic State group and since then have helped finance their self-rule by selling the crude, mainly to the Syrian government.

According to U.S. officials, the American troops would not actually "guard" the oil; instead, they would work with the SDF to ensure that IS doesn't regenerate and also to provide logistical and other support.

The reported attack on Syrian government forces took place at the village of Kozliya on the edges of the Turkish-held zone.

Turkish-backed fighters also captured the nearby village of Manajeer in clashes with Kurdish forces, SANA reported. They battled Kurdish fighters in two other nearby villages, "using heavy weapons," said Mustafa Bali, spokesman for the Kurdish-led SDF. He said the SDF would defend itself. SDF's Abdi tweeted that Turkish troops and "their jihadists continue to VIO-LATE and launch attacks." Turkey has said it is abiding by the halt in fighting but will eliminate any Kurdish fighters still in the zone where the Russian deal gives it direct control. The lines of that zone have not been publicly defined, however, and the location of the reported attacks suggested Turkish troops could be trying to gain new ground on

Turkey's Defense Ministry said Kurdish fighters conducted an attack with a drone, mortar fire and light weapons against Turkish troops in Ras al Ayn, wounding five soldiers. It said the military responded in self-defense but did not provide further details.

its edges.

In other violence, a booby-trapped car exploded outside the headquarters of a Turkish-allied militia in the border town of Tal Abyad, SANA and the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. They said the blast wounded four people in the town, which was captured early in Turkey's assault. There was no immediate claim of responsibility.





Abe, S. Korean premier agree to keep talking to mend ties

By MARI YAMAGUCHI **Associated Press**

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's prime minister and South Korea's No. 2 official agreed on the importance of improving ties but made no apparent breakthrough Thursday in the first highlevel meeting since the neighbors' relations nosedived over trade and history disputes.

South Korea's Prime Minister Lee Nak-yon handed Shinzo Abe a letter from South Korean President Moon Jae-in during the talks. Lee attended Emperor Naruhito's enthronement ceremony Tuesday before meeting with Abe. Lee is the most senior official after Moon but his role is largely ceremonial.

An official in Seoul said Moon's personal letter congratulated Japan on the new imperial era of Reiwa and wished for an improvement in bilateral ties. Abe expressed his gratitude for the letter, according to South Korea's first vice foreign minister, Cho Sei-yong, who spoke in a television briefing after the meeting ended.

Cho said Lee and Abe agreed the two countries



South Korea's Prime Minister Lee Nak-yon, left, shakes hands with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe prior to their meeting at Abe's official residence in Tokyo, Thursday, Oct. 24, 2019.

Associated Press should be mended, but

that coordination between Seoul should take the first them and with Washington step. was important. Lee called The meeting was closely for promoting diverse commonitored for signs of a munications and exchangthaw, but little progress was es to try to resolve their apparent except for an agreement to keep talking. Abe told Lee that such co-Still, Chief Cabinet Secreoperation is crucial as they tary Yoshihide Suga said the face North Korean nuclear talks were "meaninaful" as the two sides exchanged and missile threats, accord-

views and reassured that

their efforts are continuing.

Lee, who is known as a Ja-

pan expert, didn't disclose more details about the talks as he left Abe's office. Relations have worsened since Japan in July tightened export controls on key high-tech materials used by South Korean manufacturers. Tokyo cited unspecified security concerns, but Seoul called it retaliation for its courts ordering Japanese companies to compensate Korean laborers for abusing them during Japan's 1910-1945 colonization.Japanese lawmakers and officials have singled out the South Korean court rulings that would freeze the Japanese companies' assets held in that country, where more than a dozen similar lawsuits are still pending.

The trade spat has also spilled over to security issues. South Korea in August announced a decision to terminate a bilateral military intelligence sharing pact despite North Korea's resumption of missile tests over the last several months, triggering Washington's concern. The pact is set to expire in late No-

Japan maintains all compensation issues, including those of South Korean women who were held as sex slaves at front-line brothels for Japanese soldiers, were settled under the 1965 bilateral treaty under which Tokyo provided \$500 million in economic cooperation.

Abe, in his meeting with Lee, reiterated Japan's position that South Korea should keep its promise, referring to the 1965 agreement.

16 in Bangladesh sentenced to death in girl's brutal killing

Associated Press

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) —

A court in eastern Bangladesh sentenced the principal of an Islamic school and 15 others to death on Thursday over the killing of an 18-year-old woman who was set on fire for refusing to drop sexual harassment charges against the principal.

Judge Mamunur Rashid of the Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal found Principal Siraj Ud Doula and the others guilty of either killing the woman or ordering her death in April.

The brutality of the death triggered nationwide protests. Tens of thousands of people attended Rafi's funeral prayers in her hometown, and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina pledged

quick justice. All of the defendants, including a local ruling party member and some students at the school, were in the court in handcuffs during the reading of the verdict.

must improve their ties and

frayed ties, Cho said.

ing to the Japanese For-

eign Ministry. Abe said the

currently strained relations

The principal, who had smiled as he was brought into the court, cried after the verdict was announced, local media reported. The defendants began shouting and screaming as they were taken away in a police van. Defense lawyer Giasuddin Nannu said all 16 defendants would appeal the verdict.

The young woman, Nusrat Jahan Rafi, said she was lured to the roof of her rural school in Feni town and told to withdraw the charges by five people clad in burgas. When she refused, she said her hands were tied and that her family would get she was doused in kero-



In this Friday, April 19, 2019, file photo, protesters gather to demand justice for an 18-year-old woman Nusrat Jahan Rafi who was killed after she was set on fire for refusing to drop sexual harassment charges against her Islamic school's principal, in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

sene and set on fire.

Rafi told the story to her brother in an ambulance as she was taken to a hospital and he recorded it on his mobile phone.

She died four days later with burns covering 80% of her body.

The violence shook Bangladesh, triggering protests and raising concerns over the plight of women and girls in the conservative Muslim-majority nation of 160 million people, where

Associated Press

sexual harassment and violence are often unreported, victims are intimidated and the legal process is lengthy. Many avoid reporting to police because of social stigma.

Police also often show an unwillingness to investigate such cases and are accused of being influenced by local politics or bribes, according to human rights groups.

Days before Rafi was set on fire, she filed a complaint with police that the principal of her madrasa had called her into his office and repeatedly touched her inappropriately. Her family agreed to help her to file the complaint, which prompted police to arrest the principal, infuriating him and his supporters. Influential local politicians backed the principal..



Teachers who don't flee Venezuela get side gigs to survive

By SCOTT SMITH **JORGE RUEDA Associated Press** CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

 Daixy Aguero holds her chin up when students wander by and are surprised to find their teacher selling makeup at a weekend Caracas street market. Aguero says it's the only way she can make ends meet on a teacher's pay in Venezuela.

Some 40 percent of Venezuela's teachers have left their schools in the last three years, according to a union representing educators. They're escaping low pay and crumbling classrooms.

Others like Aguero have stayed behind on the front line of the country in crisis.

They keep teaching out of a passion that first drew them to education, while taking side gigs to feed their families. Aguero tells her kindergarten students who find her hawking lipstick, eyeliner and face cream that she's not ashamed.

"I tell them you have to work," she said. "And you have to study."

Thousands of Venezuelan teachers vented their frustration in a two-day strike ending Wednesday to demand better working conditions such as fair wages and urgent repairs to crum-



In this Oct. 7, 2019 photo, teacher Daixy Aguero leads her students during an activity at a school in Caracas, Venezuela.

bling schools. Teachers in 17 of Venezuela's 23 states walked out of class, gathering of hundreds at some protests, while organizers said others stayed in the classroom, fearing they would be punished or fired. dignity." Protesters in Caracas carried banners outside the Ministry of Education blasting President Nicolás Maduro, who they say has let the country down as well as its next generation, which

"We are mobilized to de-

proper education.

they says doesn't get a

fend the quality of education for our students" said Griselda Sánchez, a representative of the Trade Union Coalition. "We're defending a salary that will allow all of us to live with

Crisis has driven an estimated that 40 percent of Venezuela's 370,000 active teachers from their jobs since the start of 2017, according to union figures. Many are among the more than 4 million Venezuelans have left in search of a better life.

Associated Press

Despite drawing on the world's largest oil reserves, Venezuela today produces less than 20 percent of the its peak crude production when the late President Hugo Chavez launched the socialist revolution in 1999. Opposition leader Juan Guaidó's U.S.-backed effort to oust Maduro, Chavez's successor, so far has failed to budge the socialist president, who maintains a tight grip on power with support from the military and dozens of international allies including China, Russia

and Cuba. As the political struggle continues with no end in sight, teachers and school administrators say their classes shrink, supplies dwindle and the pay barely covers the basics at home. New teachers earn a minimum wage equal to a few U.S. dollars a month, though pay doubles and triples with years of experience. Venezuela's Minister of Education Aristóbulo Istúriz spoke Tuesday in a nationally broadcast press conference about the socialist party's progress uniting workers, but he did not mention the teachers' strike or their grievances.

Officials recently hiked Venezuela's minimum wage and bonuses by more than 350%, bringing it to the equivalent of \$15 a month. But analysts say hyperinflation will quickly reduce it to a fraction and leave workers again strugaling to afford basic items. The International Monetary Fund estimates Venezuela's inflation will hit 200,000% this

"This is the only country where no one is happy when there is a salary increase," teacher Maria Carrillo said. The teachers demand between \$500 and \$600 a month.

It's not just teachers missing from classrooms.

Chile protesters: Government concessions not enough

By EVA VERGARA **Associated Press**

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) — Demonstrators returned to Chile's streets on Thursday, dissatisfied with economic concessions announced by the government in a bid to curb a week of deadly violence. President Sebastián Piñera acknowledged that the steps taken to ease public anger won't fully address the grievances of many people in the country of 18 million. "But we also know that it constitutes important relief," said the president, whose concessions include plans to put a 9.2% increase in electricity prices on hold until the end of next year. Piñera's administration is struggling to

contain unrest that began as a protest over a 4-cent increase in subway fares and soon morphed into a larger movement over risina water and medical costs and other hardships. Hundreds of demonstrators began gathering in city squares in Chile on Thursday, a day after huge protests and riots in the capital, Santiago. Some residents spent the morning clearing debris from the unrest.

At least 18 people have died in violence that has swept the South American nation. Most protests have been peaceful, but instances of arson, looting and alleged brutality by security forces have shocked many in a country known for relative stability.

Much of the discontent centers on growing inequality in one of Latin America's wealthiest nations. The involvement of multiple sectors of society, including students and workers, poses a complex challenge for a government that says it is hard-pressed to deal with rising oil prices and a weaker currency. "One cannot stay on the margin in an unequal system," said protester Alfonso Riquelme. He cast the protest movement as a struggle for people's rights, recalling resistance to the dictatorship under Gen. Augusto Pinochet between 1973 and 1990.

About 40,000 people were killed, tortured or impris-



hile's President Sebastian Pinera addresses the nation, in Santiago, Chile, Thursday, Oct. 24, 2019.

Associated Press

during the Pinochet era. In contrast, Piñera was democratically elected to lead a civilian government,

oned for political reasons though the spectacle of soldiers on Chile's streets in recent days has stirred ugly memories of a darker time in the country's history. \square

LOCAL







Netherlands and Aruba on Lonely Planet top 10 destinations

ORANJESTAD — Aruba and Netherlands are two of the best destinations to visit in 2020, according to travel guide Lonely Planet's annual list of the best countries to visit. In the top 10 countries, Aruba is in fourth place and the Netherlands in seventh. Aruba is a constituent country of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

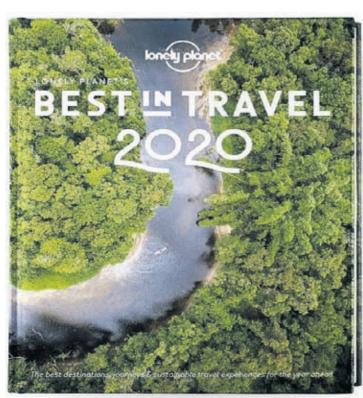
The travel guide obviously mentions Aruba's "palm-fringed and pristine beaches", but also praises the island's cultural hub of San Nicolas and its sustainability efforts. According to Lonely Planet, San Nicolas is "relishing in a colorful and creative revival, with international and local artists adorning street walls and pop-up carnival experiences extending the happy vibes beyond the annual festivities". Aruba is also a testing ground for multiple countries' renewable energy solutions and is working to ban all single-use plastics and reef-destroying sunscreens next year.

Next year is a good time to visit the Netherlands, because 2020 will be a year of celebration for the country. Not only is it the 75th anniversary of liberation after the end of the Second World War, but the Netherlands is also hosting the Eurovision Song Contest next year. "April and May are the months to visit, as you can take in King's Day, Liberation Day and the Eurovision Song Contest", Lonely Planet said. And while "vibrant Amsterdam always deserves a visit", the travel guide urges tourists to make use of the "excellent train network, and the over 35 thousand kilometers of bicycle paths to explore beyond the cities.

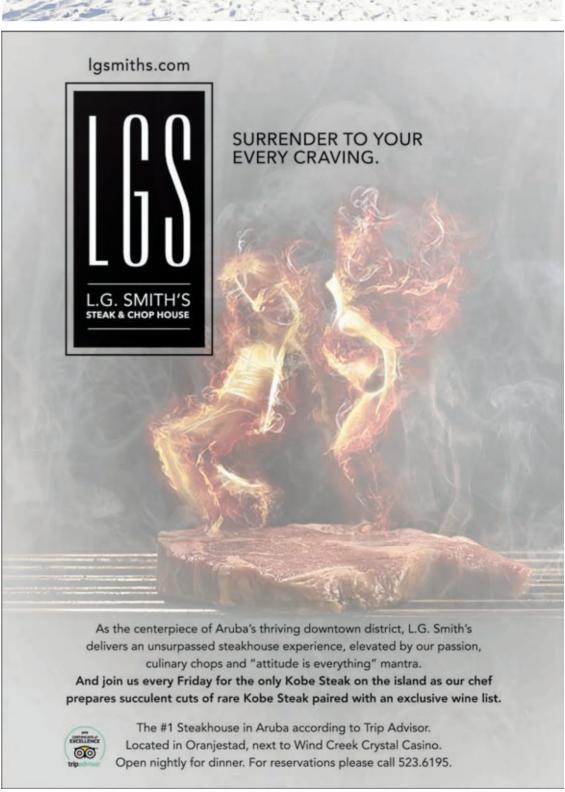
The top 10 countries to visit:

- 1. Bhutan
- 2. England
- 3. North Macedonia
- 4. Arubo
- 5. eSwatini (formerly Swaziland)
- 6. Costa Rica
- 7. The Netherlands
- 8. Liberia
- 9. Morocco
- 10. Uruguay

Source: https://nltimes.nl/









Neighbors: Trustworthy Doctor & Great Equipped Pharmacy

- Both in walking distance from resorts -



PALM BEACH — Doctor Lili Beke from the Walk-In Clinic has a solid reputation, built up in more than 35 years of experience as a medical doctor. Both tourists and locals feel great with her for the simple reasons that she has the qualities of a great doctor: communicative, skilled, empathetic and trustworthy. Unique is the fact that you can walk into this clinic without an appointment and that the Palm Beach Service Pharmacy she partners up with is literally next door. When you feel sick during vacation you want this out of your system as soon as possible and a convenient solution is forehanded. Don't look any further, help is just around the corner. A one-stop-shopping solution.

Top 5 Vacation Illnesses

The most common reasons why patients walk into her clinic sound very familiar. Doctor Beke: "When on vacation you are excited so you mix meals, eat without control and combine this with more alcohol than usual resulting in an upset stomach. Digestion issues occur and when on a diet you can count on it that you will get sick." Throwing up, diarrhea, dehydration will be a bummer on your vacation. "Second occasion why people step in here is medication. They feel sick because they forgot to take their medicines with them or simply think they don't need it on holiday. But of course the body does not work differently only because you are in another place." This happens especially with patients of higher age and many times with blood pressure medication and psychological medicines, the doctor explains. "As we have the pharmacy next door we can solve this in most cases very quick so you will soon feel better again. Then of course we have the allergies, force majeure but still a hassle. Too much sun bathing is another thing causing dehydration and sun burns."

"I strongly advise to buy a new sunblock cream every vacation. Our pharmacy sells the most advanced ones that is environmental friendly, so not damaging the sea life." As fifth most common reason for patients to come see the doctor she mentions exhaustion. "You want to do everything in a short time and by the end of the day the body is exhausted, giving a reversed reaction. Take it easy please, moderate or like we say here: chill." Besides this top 5 the doctor is visited by patients with chronic diseases that often contact her in advance to travelling.

The Little Ones

With regards to children Dr. Beke advises parents to keep an extra eye on them during vacation. "They are excited, cannot hold control, play all day in the sand and pool and eat a lot of different things. But they are sensitive and you do not want your loved ones waking up in the middle of the night vomiting or with diarrhea." Asthmatic children should be taken care of extra as the sun, water and strong draft on the island can complicate their condition. "Protect the heads of your kids, we are close to the equator and the sun rays are more rectangular thus stronger. The heat and humidity can exhaust the little bodies easily. Let them play under an umbrella preferably and keep drinking water. At the pharmacy you can buy ear plugs to prevent ear infections." The doctor stresses that there is no doubt about drinking tap water. "The



water of Aruba is the best. You can drink that without problems. It is excellent. In the States it is prepared with a lot of chemicals, but here it's clean."

Locals

Doctor Beke has a loyal local patient pool staying with her mainly because of the experience and trust. "They tell me I really listen to them, they feel attended and respected. A patient is a human being, not a casus, unfortunately many times doctors are skilled in the medical part but not on the social terrain." The latter is more and more important, especially with certain groups like teenage girls. "They prefer a female doctor to treat typical woman issues. The desire is attention and to feel at ease." Patients step in for second opinions too. "Everybody has the right to do that, it is their body and their money."

Pharmacy Convenience

After you pick up your prescription at Dr. Beke's practice, you can go to the Palm Beach Service Pharmacy, right next door. The collaboration between these two results in a quick, efficient and quality service. It's just what you need when you feel the only thing you want is healing. Lennert van der Poel, general manager of the pharmacy, which is part of a group of 5 pharmacies (Botica di Servicio), points out that convenience is not their only unique asset. "We carry a wide variety of medicines from the US, but most of the medicines come from the EU. The prices in the EU are considerately lower than in the U.S." All medicines are European registered with the same standard as U.S. products. "The law in the States allows visitors to get prescribed medicine by a local doctor for up to 6 months, saving them a ton of money.", says van der Poel. Most common medicines requested by visitors are antibiotic, pain killers and anti-allergy medications. However, certain things do not need prescription, such as contact lenses. These don't need a prescription to get them on the island. "We've recently started importing our own 'house brand' of contact lenses called 'Optinova', and the feedback has been amazing", elaborates Van der Poel, "We carry both daily and monthly lenses, which are an ideal substitute if you forget yours when coming on vacation, or even if you would like to take some home, which is why we've seen so many return customers."

Naturally we wish you the healthiest, most wonderful vacation of your life on our Happy Island. But In case you are in need of a doctor and a pharmacy, just turn around, walk in and feel welcome to be cured!



Palm Beach Service Pharmacy T: +297 587 1717 www.boticadiservicio.com info@boticadiservicio.com Unit 8 at "The Cove", Palm Beach Open Mon-Fri 10 am – 4 pm, Sat 11.00 am – 4.00 pm Aruba Walk-in Clinic T: +297 588 539 or +297 594 0539 (emergency) Igbeke.md@gmail.com Unit 9 at "The Cove", Palm Beach Open during weekdays 9am—12pm, 2.30 –5 pm(Friday afternoon 2pm— 4.30 pm) Saturday, Sunday & Holidays 2 pm—4 pm

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Movie night in the open air of Arikok National Park



ORANJESTAD — Tomorrow, October 26, the Foundation Park National Aruba (FPNA) invite sthe entire community to enjoy their open air movie night.

FPNA organizes the movie night to create awareness and educate the local and visitor's community about global topics that are related to nature.

At 7.30PM the first two episodes of the documentary 'One strange rock' will be shown. The documentary if produced by national Geographic and demonstrates several astronauts and their perspective on earth. The presentation of the movie is done by the actor Will Smith. The first episode is about oxygen and experts elaborate on worldwide oxygen but also in space. The second episode shows a cosmic explosion that helped to create the world. FPNA will welcome participants in their visitor center where there will also be drinks and snacks available to buy. The movie night is free of charge and will be both interesting and educative. For more information please call telephone number +297 585 1234 or visit the Facebook page; https://www.facebook.com/arikoknationalpark.





8 Tips how to thrive and feel good

By Bonnie Gortler

NEW YORK, USA — Your time is a valued commodity. Why not use yours to thrive and feel good? Life is filled with twists and turns. If you are not thriving and feeling good, then begin to simplify what you are doing when meeting your obligations and work responsibilities. By using your time to care about your well-being, you will find you have more daily energy, happiness, and you will feel more inner peace. When you create the changes, you will find life becomes less stressed and more fulfilling.

Think for a moment of ways how you can do more of what you love. Develop routines and strategies that will limit your stress and increase your happiness. What are you passionate about? I like to help people make money and take care of their well-being, so they feel good. Time passes quickly. Decide today that you will choose one action step toward doing more of what you love to do.

Change is challenging, but you can start the process by accepting that change is necessary. You deserve to have a break from those everyday responsibilities. Decide you will plan at least a few minutes each day that is dedicated to what brings you joy and happiness. Get in the habit of planning for "me time" or other plans will become a priority. Start your day by lifting your spirits and setting the tone more peacefully. Read what inspires you, listen to music that energizes you, meditate to find your center, or begin the day by implementing that exercise program you've wanted to do. Start right now.

If you've already started the process, then you may find you are at a point where you are not making as much progress as you would like. This happens to everyone. If this does happen, be patient with yourself, don't stop, keep going. Remind yourself to be patient when changing the routines, you've already established. Look at your schedule and see where you may be overextended and be out of balance. Don't allow your day to be so full that there is no place for your well-being.

It takes time to develop new thoughts and habits. Sometimes you might need to practice more than you thought was necessary before a new pattern finally clicks. However, when you become strong enough to put your fear to the side, this will encourage you and will lessen the possibility of missing out on opportunities that come your way. You begin to reap the rewards, thrive, and feel good. Like any habit, once you take the dive in and act, you will get better and better at it. You will also discover that over time, your fears lessen and what you feared most would become second nature to you.

As you embrace your fears, you will grow and see new opportunities and possibilities that you have not seen experienced before. Below I've put together some tips to help you make changes toward improving your well-being so you thrive and feel good.

8 Tips How to Thrive and Feel Good

- 1. **Reduce the amount of time you worry.** Over 90% of what you worry about will work itself out within a few
- 2. Schedule an appointment on your calendar with yourself. Book a day or a few hours at the spa getting a manicure, a massage, or take a yoga/exercise class at your nearest gym.
- 3. Shift your mindset to be more positive if you are frustrated or upset. A helpful strategy is to get your pen and paper and create a list of 5 things that make you smile. Choose one and do it.
- 4. Go after your dream. Don't give up. Focus on what you want. Take a small action step each day.
- 5. Get up an hour earlier to start your day in a positive way. Use the time to create a daily routine that makes

- reading, or walking.
- Do less, not more. Remove, simplify, or tweak one item that you often do and are not getting the results that you thought you would.
- Respond to others without reacting. If someone says something to you that you don't like, don't answer right back. Ask yourself, am I taking what was said personally? Take a deep breath and count to 10 before you respond.
- Be kind and compassionate. Be thoughtful of how others may feel and what they may be going through. There are two sides to every story, and on occasion, even three.

If you have some negative thoughts that come into your mind, close your eyes for a minute or and visualize what you want. You can thrive and feel good. Start by choosing one of the tips above and continue until it's been mastered. Then select another one. Start creating a different lifestyle, spending quality time with yourself doing what you love. Live a fulfilling life

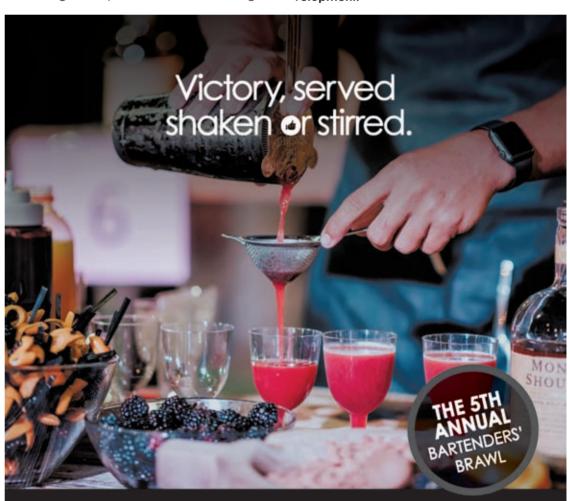
you happy. Ex. Journaling, meditation, by taking care of your well-being, so you thrive and feel good.

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About Bonnie Gortler: Bonnie Gortler, the Wealth & Well-Being Coach, is a successful stock market expert who has been instrumental in managmulti-million-dollar client portfolios within a top-rated investment firm during her over 35-year corporate career. the author of "Journey to Wealth", Bonnie has



made it her mission to share the importance of risk management and how to enjoy true financial well-being by applying the technical and mental sides of investing. Bonnie has an M.B.A. in Business Administration and is a certified life coach. Visit BonnieGortler.com to learn more about investing, well-being, and personal development.



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SPORTS







A century after Black Sox, baseball cheating goes high-tech

By BEN NUCKOLS
AP Sports Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — A
century after the Black Sox
scandal that tarnished the
World Series and ushered
in major changes in baseball, the notion that millionaire ballplayers would take
money to throw a game —
much less the World Series
— is all but unthinkable.

But that doesn't mean cheating in baseball is a thing of the past, and there are still concerns about gambling affecting the integrity of the sport.

Today's scandals revolve around technology — from teams using Apple Watches or high-definition cameras to steal signs to rogue "data scouts" giving bookmakers real-time information from ballparks. It's hard to gauge how widespread these practices are, but players and managers are paranoid about tech-driven cheating, with teams hurling accusations at one another as recently as this year's American League Championship Series.

MLB is doing its best to adapt its rulebook to the tech, hoping to keep the sport honest as it failed to do 100 years ago.

HISTORY LESSON

The 1919 World Series, in which several Chicago White Sox players were paid by gamblers to lose intentionally to the Cincinnati Reds, was the most egregious game-fixing scandal in baseball history, but it didn't occur in a vacuum.



Washington Nationals starting pitcher Stephen Strasburg throws against the Houston Astros during the first inning of Game 2 of the baseball World Series Wednesday, Oct. 23, 2019, in Houston.



Irving has 50 points in Brooklyn debut, Nets fall to Wolves

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Kyrie Irving scored 50 points in a record-setting Nets debut, but lost his balance and missed a potential winning shot that allowed the Minnesota Timberwolves to pull out a 127-126 victory over Brooklyn in overtime Wednesday night.

Karl-Anthony Towns had 36 points and 14 rebounds for Minnesota, and Andrew Wiggins added 21 points, including the go-ahead basket with 1:19 remaining. Irving had the ball in his hands with a chance to cap his dazzling debut with a victory, following a Nets timeout. He ran the clock down and then began his drive, but lost his balance near the foul line. He retained his dribble, got up and shot, but his jumper missed.

After signing with the Nets in July, Irving broke Kiki Vandeweghe's record for most points by a player in his first game with a team. Vandeweghe scored 47 points for Portland at Kansas City on Oct. 27, 1984.

Irving finished with eight rebounds and seven assists. Caris LeVert added 20 points.

NUGGETS 108, TRAIL BLAZ-ERS 100

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Nikola Jokic had 20 points and 13 rebounds despite sitting much of the first half because of foul trouble, and Denver spoiled the opening game of Portland's 50th season.

Will Barton added 19 points for the Nuggets, who also snapped Portland's 18game winning streak in home openers, the longest streak in league history.

Damian Lillard led the Blazers with 32 points and eight assists, and Hassan Whiteside had 16 points and 19 rebounds in his Portland debut.

It was the first meeting between the teams since the Western Conference semifinals, won by the Blazers in seven games.

76ERS 107, CELTICS 93 PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Joel Embiid had 15 points and 13 rebounds, Ben Simmons scored 24 points and Phila-



Brooklyn Nets guard Kyrie Irving (11) takes his last shot, which didn't land in the basket, in overtime of an NBA basketball game against the Minnesota Timbers on Wednesday, Oct. 23, 2019, in New York.

delphia beat Boston.

Gordon Hayward led the Celtics with 25 points. Jayson Tatum had 21. Kemba Walker scored 12 points on 4-of-18 shooting in his Boston debut, and Al Horford had 16 in his first game with the 76ers.

Furkan Korkmaz and Tobias Harris buried consecutive 3-pointers for Philadelphia — after the Sixers had missed 21 of 24 through three quarters — to stretch the lead to 10.

MAVERICKS 108, WIZARDS 100

DALLAS (AP) — Luka Doncic had 34 points and nine rebounds and Kristaps Porzingis scored 23 points in the European pair's long-awaited first game together, leading Dallas past Washington.

Porzingis missed his first four shots before taking a break and coming back to score nine points in the final 2:45 of the first quarter. The 7-foot-3 Latvian acquired in a blockbuster deal with the New York Knicks before the trading deadline last season was 7 of 16 from the field.

Doncic and Porzingis traded long 3-pointers throughout the game, finishing 7 of 16 between them (4 of 9 for Doncic, 3 of 7 for Porzingis). Doncic was 12 of 19 overall.

Washington rookie Rui Hachimura, the first Japanese-born player drafted in the first round, had 14 points and 10 rebounds. Bradley Beal scored 19 points less than a week after the All-Star guard signed a \$72 million, two-year extension that will go through the 2022-23 season, with a player option after that.

HEAT 120, GRIZZLIES 101 MIAMI (AP) — Justise Win-

slow scored 27 points, rookie Kendrick Nunn scored 24 in his NBA debut and Miami ran away in the fourth quarter to beat Memphis.

Goran Dragic scored 19 points for Miami, which played without Jimmy Butler because of personal reasons. Nunn and fellow rookie Tyler Herro started in the backcourt instead.

Bam Adebayo had 14 points and 11 rebounds for Miami, and Winslow added seven rebounds and seven assists.

Ja Morant, the No. 2 pick in this year's draft, scored 14 points and had four assists for Memphis. Jaren Jackson Jr. had 17 points.

PISTONS 119, PACERS 110
INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Andre Drummond had 32 points and 23 rebounds, and Luke Kennard made three 3-pointers in the final six minutes in Detroit's open-

ing victory over Indiana. Kennard scored 30 points, a career best, and matched his career high with six 3s.

Associated Press

Domantas Sabonis had 27 points and 13 rebounds for Indiana. Myles Turner added 25 points, and Malcolm Brogdon had 22 in his Pacers debut.

SPURS 120, KNICKS 111 SAN ANTONIO (AP) — La-

Marcus Aldridge had 22 points, Bryn Forbes added 20 and San Antonio, spoiling No. 2 overall pick RJ Barrett's debut with New York.

Barrett had 21 points on 9-for-13 shooting with five rebounds and two assists in 37 minutes.

Marcus Morris led New York with 26 points, and Julius Randle had 25 points and 11 rebounds.

Dejounte Murray, who played in his first game since tearing his right ACL in a preseason game Oct. 7, had 18 points, including a 3-pointer with five minutes remaining that put San Antonio up 105-97. The 6-foot-5 point guard had six assists and eight rebounds.

SUNS 124, KINGS 95

PHOENIX (AP) — Devin Booker had 22 points and 10 assists, Kelly Oubre Jr. added 21 points and Phoenix beat Sacrament in Monte Williams' first games as the coach of the Suns.
Ricky Rubio had 11 points,
11 assists, six rebounds and
four steals in his first game
with the Suns after signing a
three-year, \$51 million deal.
Deandre Ayton added 18
points and 11 rebounds.
Buddy Hield led the Kinas

Buddy Hield led the Kings with 28 points. Luke Walton made his Sacramento coaching debut.

JAZZ 100, THUNDER 95

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Donovan Mitchell had 32 points and 12 rebounds to lead Utah past Oklahoma City. Mitchell scored 22 points in the second half. Bojan Bogdanovic added 16 points, and Royce O'Neale chipped in with 14 for the Jazz. Rudy Gobert grabbed 14 rebounds.

Mike Conley went 1 of 16 from the field in his Utah debut after spending his first 12 seasons with Memphis. He missed his first 12 shots before finally scoring on a floater in the lane with 5.9 seconds left in the third quarter. Shai Gilgeous-Alexander scored 26 points on 10-of-23 shooting for the Thunder, and Chris Paul added 22 points and eight rebounds.

HORNETS 126, BULLS 125

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Rookie PJ Washington hit seven 3-pointers and scored 27 points to help Charlotte open the post-Kemba Walker era with a victory over Chicago.

The Hornets made 23 3-pointers, the most in franchise history in a regulation game. The record is 24 in a double-overtime game. Devonte Graham had 23 points on 6-of-7 3-point shooting and added eight assists.

Lauri Markkanen led Chicago with 35 points and 17 rebounds.

MAGIC 94, CAVALIERS 85 ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Niko-

la Vucevic had 21 points and nine rebounds in Orlando's victory over Cleveland.

Evan Fournier scored 16 points for Orlando, and Markelle Fultz had 12 points and six assists in his Magic debut. Kevin Love had 11 points and 18 rebounds for Cleveland in John Beilein's first game as coach.

SPORTS A19 FRIDAY 25 OCTOBER 2019

Hedman scores late goal, **Lightning beat Penguins 3-2**

By MARK DIDTLER **Associated Press**

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Tampa Bay goalie Andrei Vasilevskiy said "the wait was well worth it" after it took a long video review to confirm a victory over Pittsburgh.

Vasilevskiy made an outstanding save as regulation ended after Victor Hedman scored a power-play goal with 56.8 seconds remaining to give the Lightning a 3-2 victory over the Penguins on Wednesday night. Last year's Vezina Trophy winner dove headfirst into the crease and made a sweeping glove stop on Kris Letang's shot.

"There was a bia scramble," Vasilevskiy said. "I just tried to cover the bottom of the net, seal the ice and he just shot into my glove. Kind of never give-up play. It works sometimes ... not every time, though."

Replays showed that part of Vasilevskiy's glove was past the goal line but it wasn't clear if the puck completely crossed over, too. "It looks like it's in his webbing and for a split second it looked like his webbing is over the line," Penguins center Sidney Crosby said. "So maybe they can't tell based on being in his glove." Hedman felt the longer the delay lasted, the better it was for the Lightning.

The Lightning went 1 for 4 on the power play, with two coming in the last five minutes of play. Pittsburgh failed to score on its one chance. "Unfortunately you've got to kill all those (penalties)," Crosby said. "I don't know if we deserved all those. It's not like they dominated and had the puck that much more than we did. You think we have drew a few more."

Alex Killorn and Cedric Paquette also scored, and Vasilevskiy made 37 saves. Brandon Tanev and Jake Guentzel scored Tristan Jarry stopped 45 shots for the Penguins. Crosby picked up an assist and moved past Norm Ullman into sole possession of 40th place on the NHL career points list with 1,230.

The injury-depleted Penguins are without forwards Evgeni Malkin, Alex Galchenyuk, Nick Bjugstad and Bryan Rust, and defensemen Brian Dumoulin and Zach Trotman. Malkin has 23 goals and 51 points in 38 games against Tampa Bay. Paquette, who played for the first time this season after being sidelined by an upper-body injury, tied it at 2 on a deflection at 7:07 of the third. Tanev skated out from behind the net and scored on a backhander at 5:06 of the second before Guentzel scored off a pass through the slot from Crosby to put Pittsburgh up 2-1 with 58.8 seconds left in the period. Crosby



Pittsburgh Penguins center Sam Lafferty (37) shoots wide of Tampa Bay Lightning goaltender Andrei Vasilevskiy (88) during the first period of an NHL hockey game Wednesday, Oct. 23, 2019, in Tampa, Fla.

Associated Press

has 34 assists and 53 points second-period goals in 11 in 40 games against the Lightning. Pittsburgh has 19

games this season. Killorn opened the scoring midway through the first by redirecting Nikita Kucherov's shot.





Strasburg stars as Nats rout Astros 12-3 for 2-0 Series lead

By KRISTIE RIEKEN **AP Sports Writer**

HOUSTON (AP) — Stephen Strasburg's time had come. Famously held out of the postseason seven years ago, Strasburg delivered on the biggest stage of all Wednesday night.

right-hander pitched fellow ace Justin Verlander, overcoming a shaky start to help the Washington Nationals beat the Houston Astros 12-3 for a commanding 2-0 lead in the World Series.

Strasburg went six innings to earn the win — and a group hug in the dugout when he was done on the mound.

"They keep squeezing me a little harder every time," he said, "That's OK,"

Kurt Suzuki hit a tiebreaking homer in what became a messy six-run seventh, and the Nationals headed back home needing two wins in three potential games in Washington to claim their first championship.

Adam Eaton paraded around the bases pointing to the Houston crowd after a late home run as the Nationals won their eighth in a row. They've won 18 of 20 overall dating back to the regular season, with the last two over AL Cy Young Award favorites Gerrit Cole and Verlander.

Game 3 is Friday night when Aníbal Sánchez opposes Houston's Zack Greinke in the first World Series game in the nation's capital since 1933.

"Probably going to be a little frigid, might be a little



Washington Nationals' Adam Eaton hits a two-run home run during the eighth inning of Game 2 of the baseball World Series against the Houston Astros Wednesday, Oct. 23, 2019, in Houston.

Associated Press

cold, so bring your jackets and your beanies," said slugger Anthony Rendon, who hit a two-run double in the first inning.

The 31-year-old Strasburg had waited years for this chance. Back in 2012, he was about two years removed from Tommy John surgery when Nationals brass decided protecting his elbow was more important than pitching him in the playoffs, so he was shut down late in a season full of promise.

Making his Series debut, Strasburg allowed a tworun homer to Alex Bregman in the first before throwing five shutout innings to improve to 4-0 this postseason. He allowed seven hits and struck out seven.

Martinez was asked what's made Strasburg so good this October.

"One, he has the confidence to do it and two, he's become a premier pitcher, a big-game pitcher," Martinez said. "He doesn't get

Verlander, so good in the regular season, fell to 0-5 in six World Series starts. He gave up seven hits and four runs, and was lifted after walking a batter following Suzuki's home run.

Verlander led the majors with 21 wins this season and struck out a career-high 300 to reach 3,000 in his career. He has a World Series ring, MVP and Cy Young Award trophies, and three no-hitters to his name.

He fanned six to become Nationals manager Dave the career leader in postseason strikeouts with 202 — another impressive statistic on a stellar resume that's still missing that elusive World Series win.

"Obviously it's magnified in the World Series when you're not clicking on all cylinders," Verlander said.

Their wins against Houston's best pitchers turned the underdog Nationals into heavy favorites to take the title.

Only three of the previous 25 teams to lose the first two games at home under the 2-3-2 format have come back to win the Series. No one has done it since the 1996 New York Yankees.

"I wish I was a betting man, but I'm not," Martinez said. "I don't really believe in that stuff.... We're here because the boys never gave up."

Long after most players had left the field and only a handful of Nationals were left, a small but boisterous crowd of Washington fans assembled behind their dugout. The red-clad group cheered and waved their hands as players ascended the dugout stairs, finishing up an out-of-town party they hope to continue at home on Friday.

But the Astros insist the tough start hasn't dampened their confidence.

"We have a really good team," manager AJ Hinch said. "Clearly, the Nats have outplayed us — bottom line. They came into our building and played two really good games. We're going to have to try to sleep off the latter third of this game."

Added shortstop Carlos Correa on digging out of the early hole: "If there is a team out there that can do it, it's us."

Things went wrong immediately for Verlander when he walked leadoff man Trea Turner on four pitches. Eaton, who homered in the eighth, singled before Rendon, the Houston native who said he'd certainly have 100 friends and family members at Minute Maid Park for each game, knocked a ball off the wall in left field to put the Nationals up 2-0.

"This is my city. I love Houston," Rendon said. "We were going to try to just steal one game and we just happened to steal two, and we've got to take care of business at home." \square

Trump gives Presidential Medal of Freedom to racing's Penske

BV KEVIN FREKING Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump awarded one of the nation's high-Penske, a businessman world's most successful motorsports teams.

Penske received the Presidential Medal of Freedom on Thursday during a White House ceremony in the Oval Office. The president described Penske as a man who has "built a team and

legacy that will endure for- workers around the world, ever."

After a short but successful racing career, Penske built a car dealership into the est civilian honors to Roger Penske Corp. He began Roger Penske Racing in and founder of one of the 1966, and cars owned and prepared by Team Penske have scored hundreds of racing victories over the years, including 18 Indianapolis 500 wins.

Trump said Penske is also a successful businessman and philanthropist. His company employs some 64,000

and he has spent considerable hours and dollars trying to revitalize Detroit.

"To me it means more than any business success or motorsports trophy," Penske said

Trump has focused mostly on sports stars this year when presenting the Medal of Freedom, which is given to people who have made special contributions to the national interests of the United States, its culture or world peace.



President Donald Trump presents the Presidential Medal of Freedom to auto racing great Roger Penske during a ceremony in the Oval Office of the White House, Thursday, Oct. 24, 2019, in Washington.

Associated Press



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Baseball

Continued from Page 17

"There had been so much corruption going on in the previous two decades, and baseball had always turned a blind eye to all rumors of gambling and players betting on their own games and game-fixing," said Jacob Pomrenke, chair of the Black Sox Scandal Research Committee at the Society for American Baseball Research. "The Black Sox players saw a low risk and a high reward. They could make a lot of money in one week by losing those games, and they thought baseball would not take it seriously."

Although the White Sox had salaries commensurate with players on other teams, the payout for throwing the games was huge at the time — \$5,000 or more per player, which could equal or exceed their annual pay. It was the players, not a gambling syndicate, who initiated the fix, Pomrenke said.

Eight players involved in the scandal were acquitted at trial but were nonetheless banned for life by Baseball Commissioner Kennesaw Mountain Landis.

Attempts at game-fixing didn't end there. In 1924, a Philadelphia Phillies player said he had been offered a bribe to throw a game on the final weekend of the season against the New York Giants, who locked up the NL pennant in that very game. As detailed in Frederic Frommer's book, "You Gotta Have Heart," a history of Washington baseball, the AL president called on Landis to cancel the World Series, but Landis refused, and the Washington Senators beat the Giants to win their only championship.

CHEATING TODAY

Recent episodes of cheating in baseball have more in common with the NFL's "Spygate" scandal, in which the 2007 New England Patriots were caught videotaping opponents' defensive signals, than the Black Sox.

In 2017, the Boston Red Sox used Apple Watches to relay information about the

New York Yankees' pitching signs. Last season, a man associated with the Houston Astros was caught pointing a cellphone into opposing dugouts, and the AL champions have been dogged by allegations of tech-driven spying, most recently during this year's ALCS against the Yankees. Houston players were suspected of whistling in the dugout to communicate pitch selection to batters, an allegation manager AJ Hinch called "ridiculous." Even if the whistling allegations were true, they're frivolous compared to past scandals. Stealing pitch signs is allowed in baseball as long as you don't use technology to do it. And as Hinch pointed out, if the Yankees had tells before they threw certain pitches, that's their problem.

MLB implemented new, more robust restrictions on surveillance and electronic devices before this season, including a ban on live video of the game anywhere it could be seen by players, managers or coaches. No team has been disciplined under the policy, said Morgan Sword, MLB's senior vice president of league economics and operations.

"There were complaints filed, but there was no finding of any kind of material violation," Sword said.

He said he was concerned about the potential for a tech-driven scandal that doesn't fall under the current rules. Relying on teams to catch their opponents in the act, however, creates a paranoid atmosphere in which teams feel like they have to spy on each other, if only to make sure they're not being spied on. Players have complained about the increasingly elaborate measures they take to avoid detection.

"I understand where the paranoia comes from. We have it. I have it," Astros pitcher Justin Verlander said during the ALCS. "There's just so many cameras and there's so much video now."

GAMBLING WITH DATA

With sports betting now le-



In this June 17, 2019, file photo, Houston Astros manager AJ Hinch looks on from the dugout in the fifth inning of a baseball game against the Cincinnati Reds in Cincinnati.

Associated Press

gal in 18 states, a gamblingrelated scandal would almost certainly be very different. Suspicious bets are quickly flagged by sportsbook operators that don't want to disrupt their lucrative partnerships with professional leagues."You've got law enforcement via the gaming regulators, via the gaming operators, and now via MLB that are working in coordination to share information when there is any suspicious betting, when they suspect something nefarious is happening," said Sara Slane, a consultant who advises sports leagues and media companies about the gambling industry. "It's just a much more transparent market."

However, the use of technology to give gamblers an edge is a concern for sports leagues. People sitting in stadiums can in some cases relay in-game data faster than it appears online or on television. Knowing what happened in a game before the rest of the world does, even if only by a couple seconds, is something unscrupulous offshore bookies and their customers could take ad-

vantage of, particularly with in-game proposition bets. MLB has been lobbying states to limit the sort of in-game betting they allow and to make it a crime for scouts to transmit data from ballparks.

"Any bet that an individual player or umpire can influence himself is higher risk for manipulation," Sword said. "We're asking the states for the right to have a say in the types of bets that are offered by sportsbooks, and we think that we're uniquely positioned to know which bets are riskiest."

Astros fire Taubman over clubhouse incident with reporters

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Astros fired assistant general manager Brandon Taubman for directing inappropriate comments at female reporters following Houston's pennant-winning victory over the New York Yankees last weekend.

Houston made the announcement Thursday and said Taubman's conduct did not reflect the organization's values.

"We believe this is the most appropriate course of action," the Astros said in a statement.

Taubman has previously apologized for using language that was "unprofessional and inappropriate" in the clubhouse following Saturday night's victory.

Sports Illustrated reported he repeatedly yelled toward a group of female reporters about closer Roberto Osuna, who was suspended for 75 games last year for violating MLB's domestic violence policy before being traded from Toronto to the Astros.

Taubman shouted "Thank God we got Osuna!" according to SI, which said he made similar remarks several times, punctuating them with a profanity.

"Our initial investigation led us to believe that Brandon Taubman's inappropriate comments were not directed toward any reporter. We were wrong," the Astros said in the statement Thursday. "Subsequent inter-



In this Jan. 17, 2018, file photo, Houston Astros Senior Director of Baseball Operations Brandon Taubman attends a baseball news conference in Houston.

Associated Press

views have revealed that Taubman's inappropriate comments were, in fact, directed toward one or more reporters. Accordingly we have terminated Brandon Taubman's employment with the Houston Astros."

Woods shrugs off shaky start to lead in Japan

By JIM ARMSTRONG **AP Sports Writer**

INZAI CITY, Japan (AP) —

Tiger Woods couldn't have scripted a better scenario for the PGA Tour's first tournament in Japan despite his shaky start.

After a layoff from arthroscopic surgery on his left knee two months ago, Woods shot a 6-under 64 on Thursday to share the first-round lead at the Zozo Championship.

Woods was tied with Gary Woodland, with local favorite Hideki Matsuyama a stroke behind. They had to wait another day to get back on the course after heavy rain washed out play Friday.

Things didn't start well for Woods when he sent his opening shot into the water on No. 10 and bogeyed the first three holes.

"The start I got off to wasn't very good, I hit bad shot after bad shot ... and the next thing you know, things aren't looking so good," Woods said.

But the Masters champion quickly found his game at the Accordia Golf Narashino Country Club, with birdies on four of his next six holes. He had five birdies on the final seven holes.

"After the start, the ballstriking was better, the putting was really good," Woods said. "I was hitting a lot of good putts, the ball was rolling tight which was nice."

Woods is making his first



Figer Woods of the United States gestures after his tee shot on the 9th hole during the first round of the Zozo Championship PGA Tour at the Accordia Golf Narashino country club in Inzai, east of Tokyo, Japan, Thursday, Oct. 24, 2019.

Associated Press

start in his 23rd season on the PGA Tour, needing one victory to reach 82 wins and tie the career record held by Sam Snead.

Woods last played in an official tournament in Japan in 2006 at the Dunlop Phoenix, where he lost in a playoff to Padraia Harrinaton. He won the Dunlop Phoenix the two previous years. As pleased as Woods was with his day, the Japanese fans couldn't have been happier. The American is hugely popular in Japan and drew the biggest galleries Thursday.

"The people here in Japan have come out and supported this event," Woods said. "It's been a lot of fun to play in front of them again, I haven't done it in a while. I've missed it. They've always been fantastic with golf and supported their

golf here."

Woodland had six birdies, including one on the par-5

"I played well from top to bottom," Woodland said. "I drove the ball well and anytime I can control the ball on the greens from the fairway, that adds up to a pretty good day."

Matsuyama led early with four birdies on the front nine, but faltered with a bogey on the final hole.

"I am just one stroke behind the leader so think I am in a good position," Matsuyama said. "Tomorrow I need to minimize my mistakes."

The Zozo tournament is part of three tournaments that make up the PGA Tour's Asia Swing, including the CJ Cup in South Korea won last week by Justin Thomas and the HSBC Champions in Shanghai next week.

Australia's Minjee Lee watches her shot on the 10th hole during the first round of the LPGA tournament at LPGA International Busan in Busan, South Korea, Thursday, Oct. 24,

Associated Press

Australian Minjee Lee takes 1-stroke lead at LPGA tournament

 Minjee Lee overcame changing weather condi-

tions at the Buick Ladies Championship to take a one-stroke lead with bogey-free 6-under 66 after the first round of the LPGA tournament in South Korea.

"Sometime we had sunshine, wind, rain ... we had a little bit of everything today," the 23-yearold Australian said Thursday under an umbrella at the end of her round as the showers persisted. "But whenever I had to make up-and-downs, I was able to get up-anddown."

Danielle Kang, who won last week's tournament at Shanghai, was in a group tied for second with Jin Young Ko, Jeongeun Lee6 and Seung Yeon Lee on the LPGA International Busan course.

Minjee Lee birdied three of her opening nine holes and added three more birdies on her final nine.

second consecutive bogey-free round.

"I stayed really patient today. I knew there were a lot of birdie opportunities but a lot of mistakes that could happen," said

BUSAN, South Korea (AP) Kang, whose last bogey came on the second hole of her third round in Shanghai.

> "I didn't attack a lot of pins — not like me — but I just tried to hit the fairways, the greens, and try to keep dry."

> Ko and Lee6 also went bogey-free on Thursday while Seung Yeon Lee, playing in just her second LPGA Tour event, made one bogey to go with four birdies and an eagle at No. 18. Seven players were tied for sixth at 4 under, including Shanshan

> "Somehow when I play in the wind, I'm actually more focused and more patient," said Feng. "Especially we knew that it was going to rain today, so we prepared. We brought our rain gear, umbrella, and extra towels to try to keep ourselves dry. So I think overall, I did a pretty good job."

Lydia Ko and Nelly Korda each shot 69, her sis-Kang continued her ter Jessica Korda / I and strong play, carding her Morgan Pressel and Paula Creamer had opening

It's the second stop on the LPGA Tour's Asian swing. There are tournaments in Taiwan and Japan over the next two weeks.

Wawrinka beats Tiafoe, sets up Basel **QF** against Federer

BASEL, Switzerland (AP) fierce backhand passing Stan Wawrinka set up an all-Swiss guarterfinal at the net. Now aged 38 outlasting Frances Tiafoe er and Wawrinka teamed 6-3, 3-6, 7-5 at the Swiss Indoors on Thursday.

Wawrinka saved two break points when serving at 5-5 in the decider, then converted his second match point after six deuces in the next game.

After the 48th-ranked Tiafoe couldn't handle Wawrinka's

shot, the two men hugged against Roger Federer by and 34, respectively, Federup to win doubles gold for Switzerland at the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

Wawrinka is playing Federer's hometown tournament for the 14th time. They have faced each other just once in Basel, in a 2011 semifinal won by Federer.

Stefanos Tsitsipas and Ro-

berto Bautista Aaut advanced to their 13th quarterfinals in 2019, joint best on the tour.

American Hard-serving Reilly Opelka upset sixthseeded David Goffin 6-7 (4), 7-6 (4), 7-5 with the help of 29 aces.

In the deciding set, Opelka used his one break point of the match to force the only service break in any of the five sets he has played in Basel this week.

Sounders advance to West finals with 2-0 win over Salt Lake

By TIM BOOTH **AP Sports Writer**

SEATTLE (AP) — Nick Rimando did all he could for the first hour in an attempt to prolong his career for one more game and frustrate the Seattle Sounders.

Gustav Svensson finally found the breakthrough and with it began the eventual end to the career for one of the best goalkeepers in MLS history.

"We know we have guys who can finish chances, but Rimando, in his last game, he was amazing," Seattle's Kelvin Leerdam said.

Svensson scored his second career playoff goal in the 64th minute, Nicolas Lodeiro added the capper in the 81st minute and the Sounders advanced to the Western Conference final for the third time in four seasons with a 2-0 win over Real Salt Lake on Wednesday niaht.

Svensson flicked a header off a corner kick past Rimando midway through the second half after Seattle had dominated scorina chances all night. It was Svensson's first goal of the season, and Lodeiro provided the capper 17 minutes later.

When the final whistle blew, Rimando stood in the penalty area for a few minutes, accepting handshakes and hugs from teammates



Real Salt Lake goalkeeper Nick Rimando, center, leaps as a shot goes wide and Seattle Sounders forward Jordan Morris, left, and Real Salt Lake defender Aaron Herrera, right, watch during the first half of an MLS Western Conference semifinal playoff soccer match Wednesday, Oct. 23, 2019, in

and opponents. It was a memorable farewell to MLS after 20 seasons for Rimando, who was the best player for Salt Lake but couldn't pressure and was eventually beaten late.

"This is the end of my career, but maybe I'll stay in the game somehow," Rimando said. "Right now, it sucks because we wanted to go a bit further, even though people didn't have us in mind. The guys gave it their all. All we could have done is give it our all and that's what we did. Unfortunately, we didn't come out on the right side of the results."

Rimando finished with seven saves in his final game. withstand all of Seattle's He will leave MLS as the league leader in wins, saves, shutouts and games. "Tomorrow? I'm going to take my kids to school in the morning. ... I'll wake up and get them breakfast and check them into school. Then kick my feet up and have a couple whiskeys maybe, and relax," Rimando said.

Seattle will face Los Ange-

Associated Press

the conference final next Tuesday. The Sounders will host if it's the Galaxy; they will go to Southern California if LAFC is their opponent. Seattle won each of its last two trips to the conference final under the old format of the MLS Cup playoffs.

"Organizationally this franchise has always been about winning and we want to continue that," Seattle coach Brian Schmetzer said.

Svensson's role for Seattle is a defensive midfielder, les FC or the LA Galaxy in but he was the scorer the Sounders needed on a night Rimando kept RSL in the game.

While RSL controlled possession, Seattle dominated scoring chances, seemingly each one getting closer to finally getting past Rimando. Leerdam had a pair of chances denied early in the second half. Rimando first batted away a volleyed attempt then made a quick reaction to keep Leerdam's deflected cross off Nedum Onuoha from going in for an own

Just moments before Svensson's goal, Rimando tipped Cristian Roldan's header over the crossbar at the last moment.

But Rimando was helpless on Seattle's breakthrough. The corner kick from Lodeiro came to the near post and without a defender on the goal line at the post Rimando couldn't react in time.

"It was a great corner. We've been working on that for a long time now," Svensson said.

Lodeiro's insurance goal was started by a perfect pass from Brad Smith to Raul Ruidiaz, who smartly left it off for Lodeiro to finish. Salt Lake's Everton Luiz was shown a red card in the 85th minute for a challenge on Svensson. RSL finished with just seven shots and only one on target.

Conor McGregor says his UFC return fight set for January

MOSCOW (AP) — Conor The 31-year-old McGregor McGregor will return to mixed martial arts in January with a UFC fight in Las Vegas.

The Irish fighter said Thursday he will return "fully focused" on Jan. 18 at the T-Mobile Arena. "That is my comeback fight. It is 12 weeks this Saturday. I am in prime physical condition. I have agreed the date with the company," Mc-Gregor said, adding that he knows his opponent's name but won't reveal it. "If I was to give you people the name, which I would love to do, I know the UFC would flip it because they are a crafty company."

hasn't fought since losing by submission to Khabib Nurmagomedov in October 2018. He was banned for six months and fined \$50,000 for his part in a post-fight brawl.

McGregor said he is targeting two more fights, including a rematch with Nurmagomedov in Moscow. He also aimed a string of insults at the Russian fighter.

After the Jan. 18 fight, Mc-Gregor said he would then like to fight the winner of the Nov. 3 bout between Nate Diaz and Jorge Masvidal, followed by either Nurmagomedov or Tony Ferguson. "I'm going to go through the entire roster like a chain saw through butter," he said.

Nurmagomedov's father and coach, Abdulmanap, said his unbeaten son would have little difficulty defeating McGregor again. "If he's ready for it, then we'll beat him up Moscow," Abdulmanap Nurmagomedov told Russia's state news agency Tass. "It won't be a rematch, it'll be another bout with a beating." Mc-Gregor's return comes as he faces more legal issues. He is facing an assault charge in Ireland over an incident in which he ap-



UFC (Ultimate Fighting Championship) fighter Conor McGregor gestures during a news conference in Moscow, Russia, Thursday, Oct. 24, 2019.

Associated Press

peared to punch a man in run-up to his next fight. a bar. He said he is planning to abstain from alcohol and late nights in the

"I am focused here," Mc-Gregor said. "I am structured now."



Is the stethoscope dying? High-tech rivals pose a threat

By LINDSEY TANNER **AP Medical Writer**

CHICAGO (AP) - Two centuries after its invention, the stethoscope — the very symbol of the medical profession — is facing an uncertain prognosis.

It is threatened by handheld devices that are also pressed against the chest but rely on ultrasound technology, artificial intelligence and smartphone apps instead of doctors' ears to help detect leaks, murmurs, abnormal rhythms and other problems in the heart, lungs and elsewhere. Some of these instruments can yield images of the beating heart or create electrocardiogram araphs.

Dr. Eric Topol, a world-renowned cardiologist, considers the stethoscope obsolete, nothing more than a pair of "rubber tubes."

It "was OK for 200 years," Topol said. But "we need to go beyond that. We can do better."

In a longstanding tradition, nearly every U.S. medical school presents incoming students with a white coat



In this file photo dated Wednesday, May 30, 2018, Nokia's Chairman Risto Siilasmaa speaks during a shareholder's meeting in Helsinki, Finland.

their careers. It's more than symbolic — stethoscope skills are still taught, and proficiency is required for doctors to get their licens-

Over the last decade, though, the tech industry

and stethoscope to launch has downsized ultrasound scanners into devices resembling TV remotes. It has also created digital stethoscopes that can be paired with smartphones to create moving pictures and readouts.

Proponents say these de-

Associated Press

vices are nearly as easy to use as stethoscopes and allow doctors to watch the body in motion and actually see things such as leaky valves. "There's no reason you would listen to sounds when you can see everything," Topol said.

At many medical schools, it's the newer devices that really get students' hearts pumping.

"Wow!" "Whoa!" "This is awesome," Indiana University medical students exclaimed in a recent class as they learned how to use a hand-held ultrasound device on a classmate, watching images of his lubdubbing heart on a tablet screen.

The Butterfly iQ device, made by Guilford, Connecticut-based Butterfly Network Inc., went on the market last year. An update will include artificial intelligence to help users position the probe and interpret the images.

Students at the Indianapolis-based medical school, one of the nation's largest, learn stethoscope skills but also get training in handheld ultrasound in a program launched there last year by Dr. Paul Wallach, an executive associate dean. He created a similar program five years ago at the Medical College of

Georgia and predicts that within the next decade. hand-held ultrasound devices will become part of the routine physical exam, just like the reflex hammer. The devices advance "our ability to take peek under the skin into the body," he said. But Wallach added that, unlike some of his colleagues, he isn't ready to declare the stethoscope dead. He envisions the next generation of physicians wearing "a stethoscope around the neck and an ultrasound in the pocket."

Modern-day stethoscopes bear little resemblance to the first stethoscope, invented in the early 1800s by Frenchman Rene Laennec, but they work essentially the same way.

Laennec's creation was a hollow tube of wood, almost a foot long, that made it easier to hear heart and lung sounds than pressing an ear against the chest. Rubber tubes, earpieces and the often cold metal attachment that is placed against the chest came later, helping to amplify the sounds.

When the stethoscope is pressed against the body, sound waves make the diaphragm — the flat metal disc part of the device and the bell-shaped underside vibrate. That channels the sound waves up through the tubes to the ears. Conventional stethoscopes typically cost under \$200, compared with at least a few thousand dollars for some of the hightech devices.

But picking up and interpreting body sounds is subjective and requires a sensitive ear — and a trained one.

With medical advances and competing devices over the past few decades, "the old stethoscope is kind of falling on hard times in terms of rigorous training," said Dr. James Thomas, a cardiologist at Northwestern Medicine in Chicago. "Some recent studies have shown that graduates in internal medicine and emergency medicine may miss as many of half of murmurs using a stethoscope."

Researchers: Cyberespionage campaign targets UN agencies

By FRANK BAJAK **AP Cybersecurity Writer**

A coordinated cyberespionage campaign using phishing to harvest passwords from mobile phones and computers has targeted U.N. relief agencies, the International Red Cross and other non-governmental organizations groups for the past 10 months, a cybersecurity firm reported.

The San Francisco-based security company Lookout said it doesn't know who is behind the campaign, which was still active Thursday. It added that there are indications Lookout said. some of its targets may Also targeted were think have been members of tanks and research orthe international com- ganizations including The munity in North Korea. United States Institute Among the targets were of Peace, the Heritage UNICEF, the U.N. World Foundation, the Social Food Program, the U.N. Science Research Coun-Development Program, cil, the East-West Center



In this Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2019, photo a woman types on a keyboard in New York.

Associated Press

the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies,

and the University of San Diego.

cyberespionage campaign's internet intrastructure has been hosted by a company called Shinjiru, which protects client identities and lets customers pay in anonymityshielding cryptocurrency, said Jeremy Richards, a Lookout researcher.



Iconic AmEx 'Green Card' turns 50, gets a needed revamp

By KEN SWEET
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — For 50 years, the American Express "Green Card" has been everywhere its card members wanted to be.

Launched in 1969, the Green Card gave travelers a sense of importance they didn't feel carrying travelers' cheques. For many people, it was their first AmEx card. Over time, however, the Green Card became neglected in favor of its fancier siblings, the Gold and Platinum Cards.

Now, the Green Card is getting a much-needed revamp, with a new look and more travel benefits — and, yes, a higher annual fee.

In probably the most radical of changes, the card will no longer be a charge card, but function more like a traditional credit card with the ability to revolve a balance and pay over time. This is the final nail in the coffin for American Express' charge card model, which defined the company's image for decades.

Analysts say change was overdue. While American Express would not share details on how many Green Card customers there are, industry analysts say the card's popularity has been on the decline. Popular credit card review websites generally do not recommend the card in its current iteration, citing its annual fee and lack of benefits.

"The Green Card is iconic. Often, it was the first product that our card members had with us, and it carried a certain cachet. Now we want to bring it back in a modernized way," said Rachel Stocks, executive vice president of global premium products and benefits, in an interview.

American Express sees its typical card user as someone who is relatively well-to-do, likes to travel, dine out and see entertainment. But the expectation is a Green Card user would be doing these activities less frequently than a Platinum Card user. For example the Green Card will come with



In this Wednesday, Oct. 23, 2019, photo Ira Galtman, American Express director of corporate archives, shows the new American Express "Green Card," in New York.

Associated Press

a new lounge benefit, but it will not provide the unlimited access to airport lounges that Platinum Card users enjoy.

American Express would never describe the new Green Card as its entry level credit card, but that's effectively what it became.

The Green Card wasn't the first credit card — that achievement belongs to Diners' Club. It wasn't even the first credit card AmEx issued — that distinction belongs to the "Purple Card," a paper version which launched in 1958.

The Green Card was originally known as "The Money Card" — colored to resemble American dollar bills — but has been widely referred to simply "The American Express Card." The Green Card was rolled out a year before the Boeing 747 went into service and international travel was becoming increasingly available to Americans. At the time, American Express' biggest business was travelers' cheques.

The card was a sold like a ticket to an exclusive club, a club full of traveling businessmen. Advertisements from its launch into the 1970s focused on how customers had to apply for the card, and not everyone would be accepted. It also

had an annual fee — six dollars, or roughly \$40 in to-day's dollars.

"Our card is a prestige instrument used primarily for travel and entertainment ... it is not a 'shoppers card'," American Express CEO Howard Clark told shareholders in 1969.

The card, and it's marketing, was a hit. The American Express Card became a symbol for the global traveler and high-level executive. And the Green Card's design was adopted across all of American Express cards.

"Those who had the card felt like they were just a little more special," said Kit Yarrow, a professor of marketing and advertising at Golden Gate State University.

While the Green Card may have the history, the Gold Card and the Platinum Card have received much more love from the company.

largely because That's American Express, which used to dominate the highend-credit card market, has faced increased competition from rival banks and credit card companies. The company's Platinum Card now competes with JPMorgan Chase's Sapphire Reserve Card, as well as Citigroup's Prestige Card. AmEx has been upping the perks and rewards on the Platinum Card to keep customers, and has done the same for the Gold Card.

The Green Card was sort of forgotten by credit card users. The card had not received any major changes to its benefits since 2002.

The Green Card will now come with a \$100 annual benefit for Clear, the private airport security service similar to TSA Precheck, as well as an annual \$100 airport lounge credit through LoungeBuddy, which AmEx says will cover roughly two lounge visits.

To spur further interest in the revamped card, AmEx is also throwing in a sign-up bonus of 30,000 Membership Rewards points and a \$100 credit toward Away, the luggage company.

The Green Card also will function more like a credit card, allowing account holders to pay off any purchase over time, instead of paying in full at the end of each month. Up until now, the card didn't allow that. The change means AmEx will no longer offer a card that sticks to the traditional pay at the end of the month model.

Credit card industry watchers say AmEx is catching up to consumers' preferences. Most credit card users revolve a balance and want the flexibility to pay off some purchases immediately and pay others over time.

"The charge card is a bit of a dinosaur," said Matt Schulz, an industry analyst with CreditCards.com

The new features on the card will come with a heftier price tag. The annual fee on the Green Card will increase to \$150 from the current \$95. AmEx has been increasing the annual fees on most of its cards in the last two years, to cover the cost of increased benefits.



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Mutts







6 Chix



Blondie





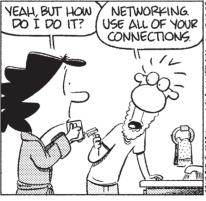


Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues







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Conceptis Sudoku

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

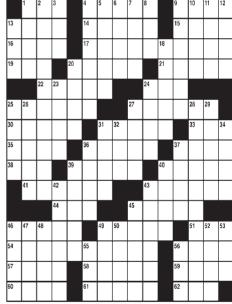
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ACROSS 1 Pitcher

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- the U.S. 15 Kauai feast 16 "Ticket to _ Beatles song 17 Self-satisfied &
- not worried 19 Spanish cheer 20 Young boxer 21 Expenses 22 Raises, as kids 24 Andrew Cuomo's
- title: abbr. 25 Competitors 27 Woods 30 Warning device 31 News anchor _ Williams
- 33 Cheap metal 35 Slav 36 Gem in an oyster
- 37 Positive 38 Thirsty Frenchman's need 39 1 of the 5 senses 40 Cables
- 41 Fraud 43 Unassuming 44 Youth 45 Lucifer 46 Footwear 49 Part of a theater 51 ...FDR, HST, ___
- .IFK 54 Mischievous elf 56 Warty amphibian 57 Trail Blazers' state: abbr. 58 1/16 of a pound 59 Grooves 60 Yankee Doodle's
- mount 61 Beginning 62 Cool cucumber

DOWN

1 Lockup 2 Rate too low 3 Seventh letter 4 Happens 5 Minces



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 6 Pat down, as soil

7 Catch sight of 8 Aviv 9 Room recess 10 Feels remorse 11 "__ Take My Eyes Off You"; Frankie Valli hit 12 Time-__; game breaks 13 __-Magnon man

18 Oak tree dropping 20 Part of the hand 23 British noble 24 Hockey score 25 Gather leaves 26 Ancient Greek epic poem 27 Blaze

28 Mind-boggling 29 Goodyear products 31 "Father Knows

32 Traitor 34 Home in a tree 36 __ for; bought 37 Ice cream parlor order 39 Rib

Thursday's Puzzle Solved S P I N A P P L E S T A B P U M A B R I E F H O B O A R M Y H A N G G L I D E R
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40 Learn by __; memorize

42 Priests & ministers 43 "Attractive" metal 45 Gravy

46 Make a mess at table 47 Novel's lead character

48 __ up; express one's feelings 49 Have nothing to do with 50 Brown shades 52 Facts and figures 53 Harris & Begley 55 Dove's cry 56 Refrain syllable





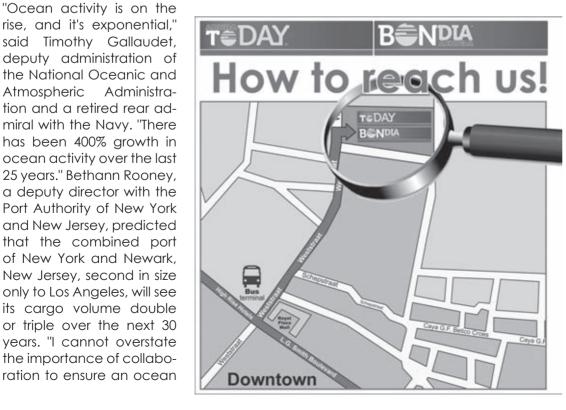
This Oct. 18, 2019 photo shows commercial fishing boats docked in Atlantic City, N.J.

Associated Pres

Competing for space on the increasingly crowded ocean

By WAYNE PARRY **Associated Press** WEST LONG BRANCH, N.J. (AP) — Oceans cover nearly three-quarters of the Earth, and it's getting crowded out on the water. Energy, shipping, fishing and conservation groups all need space to operate on the world's oceans, and are bumping up against each other more frequently. All agree the competition is going to increase in coming years. A conference Tuesday at New Jersey's Monmouth University brought together industry and environmental groups, who agreed that communication and coordination are essential to sharing the ocean. "Ocean activity is on the rise, and it's exponential," said Timothy Gallaudet, deputy administration of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and a retired rear admiral with the Navy. "There has been 400% growth in ocean activity over the last 25 years." Bethann Rooney, a deputy director with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, predicted that the combined port of New York and Newark, New Jersey, second in size only to Los Angeles, will see its cargo volume double or triple over the next 30 years. "I cannot overstate the importance of collabofor all," she said. "How do we coordinate and ensure everyone can operate in a confined space? Our ships are getting larger and larger every day." he said her agency spends \$2 million a year to incentivize shipping companies to sail at lower speeds and to burn less-polluting forms of fuel, in the name of helping the environment. Paul Gaffney, Monmouth University's president emeritus, said the competition for ocean resources is likely to include a surge in salt water desalinization plants to provide clean drinking water to surging coastal populations around the world. Clinton Plummer, an official with Orsted U.S. offshore wind,

said his company had to navigate 26 government approvals to build its wind farm off the coast of Block Island in Rhode Island, currently the only functioning U.S. wind farm. As it moves forward with other projects off Massachusetts, New Jersey and Delaware, it will need dozens more, which include interacting and planning with fishing and shipping companies, marine conservationists, and onshore communities. The Boston to Washington corridor on the U.S. East Coast holds 20% of the nation's population, and is among the most promising windpower markets in the world; Plummer called it "the Saudi Arabia of wind."



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Fossil trove shows life's fast recovery after big extinction

By MALCOLM RITTER AP Science Writer

NEW YORK (AP)—A remarkable trove of fossils from Colorado has revealed details of how mammals grew larger and plants evolved after the cataclysm that killed off the dinosaurs.

The thousands of specimens let scientists trace that history over a span of 1 million years, a mere eyeblink in Earth's lifespan.

Sixty-six million years ago, a large meteorite smashed into what is now the Yucatan Peninsula of southeastern Mexico. It unleashed broiling waves of heat and filled the sky with aerosols that blotted out the sun for months, killing off plants and the animals that depended on them.

More than three-quarters of species on Earth died out. But life came back, and land mammals began to expand from being small creatures into the wide array of forms we see today — including us.

So the new find taps into "the origin of the modern world," said Tyler Lyson, an author of a paper reporting the fossil finds Thursday in the journal Science.

The fossils were recovered from an area of steep bluffs covering about 10 square miles (17 square kilometers) near Colorado Springs, starting three years ago.

Lyson, of the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, found little in that area when he followed the standard practice of scanning for bits of bone. But that changed when he began looking instead for rocks that can form around bone. When the rocks were broken open, skulls and other fossils within were revealed.

Lyson said it's not clear how



This photo provided by HHMI Tangled Bank Studios in October 2019 shows some of the mammal skull fossils retrieved from Corral Bluffs, Colo.

wide a geographic region the fossils' story of recovery applies to, but that he thinks they show what happened over North America. "We just know so little about this everywhere on the globe," he said. "At least now we have at one spot a fantastic record."

Experts not connected to the study were enthusias-

It's "an unparalleled documentary of how life on land recovered" after the asteroid impact, said P. David Polly of Indiana University in Bloomington. "The sheer number of fossil specimens and the quality of their preservation are exceptional" for this time period, he said.

The fossils' story certainly represents what happened in central North America

and perhaps more broadly, he wrote in an email.

Stephanie Smith of the Field Museum in Chicago said the study's detailed focus on a single area can help scientists understand the complexity of recovery when combined with results from elsewhere.

Scientists have previously found little evidence about what happened in the aftermath of the meteorite crash, especially on land, said Jin Meng of the American Museum of Natural History in New York. The new work, he said in an email, appears to provide "the best record on Earth to date."

The study reports on hundreds of mammal fossils representing 16 species and more than 6,000 plant fossils. Researchers also analyzed thousands of pollen grains to see what plants were alive at various times. Analysis of leaves indicated several warming periods during the period.

Here's the recovery story the fossils tell:

The area had been a forest before the meteorite hit, home to dinosaurs like T. rex and mammals no bigger than about 17 pounds (8

kilograms). Soon after the disaster, the environment was blanketed with ferns and the biggest mammal around was about as heavy as a rat. The world was in a warming period, as documented in previous studies. By about 100,000 years after the meteorite impact, the forest was dominated by palm trees and mammals had grown to the weight of raccoons, almost as big as before the meteorite crash. "That's a pretty rapid recovery, or at least one aspect of recovery," Lyson said.

By 300,000 years, the walnut tree family had diversified, and the biggest mammals were plant eaters about as heavy as a large beaver. Based on other studies of their diet, they may have evolved along with those trees, Lyson said.

By 700,000 years, the fossil record shows the first known appearance of legume plants, the family that includes peas and beans. And it reveals the two largest mammals found in the study, with the larger one weighing about 100 pounds (50 kilograms), roughly like a wolf. That is about 100 times heavier

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than the mammals that survived the extinction, "which I think is pretty fast" for growth, Lyson said.

What drove mammals to get bigger? The main factor was the disappearance of the dinosaurs, leaving an ecological niche to be filled, he said. But the quality and types of food on the landscape probably also played a role, he said. The simultaneous appearance of legume plants and bigger mammals suggests the plants may have provided a "protein bar moment," Lyson said.

He said the mammals were creatures that evolved from animals that had survived extinction or those that immigrated from elsewhere.

Zhe-Xi Luo of the University of Chicago, who did not participate in the work, said the report is remarkable for tying together records for plants, mammals and temperature, giving a "holistic picture."

Scientists expected mammals to recover after the dinosaur extinctions, he said, and the new work "is a huge step forward in getting a firm understanding about just how it happened."





Post Malone tops AMA noms, Swift could break MJ's record

By MESFIN FEKADU Associated Press NEW YORK (AP) - Post Malone is the top contender at the 2019 American Music Awards, where Taylor Swift has a chance to moonwalk past Michael Jackson's record for most wins at the show. Dick clark productions announced Thursday that Malone scored seven nominations, while newcomer Billie Eilish and Ariana Grande each earned six nominations. Swift, who has won 23 AMAs, is up for five awards and could surpass the King of Pop, who holds the record for the most wins with 24 trophies. The fan-voted AMAs will air live Nov. 24 on ABC from the Microsoft Theater

Swift, Malone and Grande, along with Drake and Halsey, are nominated for the top prize: artist of the year.

in Los Angeles.

Malone's nominations include favorite male pop/ rock artist, favorite rap/ hip-hop artist, favorite rap/hip-hop album for "Hollywood's Bleeding" and favorite rap/hip-hop song for "Wow." His massive hit with Swae Lee, "Sunflower" from the Oscar-winning animated film "Spider-Man: Into the



In this June 15, 2019 file photo, Post Malone performs at the Bonnaroo Music and Arts Festival in Manchester, Tenn.

Spider-Verse," is up for fa- 28, 2018 through Sept. 26, vorite pop/rock song and collaboration of the year. artist, favorite adult contemporary artist, favorite pop/rock album for "Lover" and favorite music video for her Equal Rights anthem, "You Need to Calm Down."

Though Lizzo scored three nominations, her hit "Truth Hurts" — currently spending its seventh week on top of the Billboard Hot 100 chart — is absent (the AMA nominees reflect the time period of Sept.

Lizzo's nominations in-Swift will compete for fa- clude favorite soul/R&B vorite female pop/rock song for "Juice" and favorite female soul/R&B artist, pitting her against Beyoncé and Ella Mai. Though she released her first album in 2013, Lizzo marked a major breakthrough this year with "Truth Hurts" and "Good As Hell," and the success helped her pick up a new artist of the year nomination. She has some stiff competition though: Nominees include Eilish, arguably the year's top new act; Lil Nas X, whose

hit "Old Town Road" is the longest-running No. 1 hit in the history of the Billboard charts; Luke Combs, who has dominated the country charts and launched multiple No. 1 hits; and Mai, who won a Grammy in her debut year

and topped several R&B

charts.

Associated Press

Mai, who was at ABC's "Good Morning America" on Thursday to announce some of the nominees, excitedly screamed "four nominations" backstage when she learned that she's also competing for favorite soul/R&B album

for her platinum-sellina self-titled debut and favorite soul/R&B song for "Trip."

"Last year, the AMAs were my first-ever (award) nominations and I had two, so to come back and now have four nominations, it's amazing," said Mai, whose groovy hit "Boo'd Up" won a Grammy this year. "And (to be nominated for favorite) R&B album, which is like my baby, my album, I'm really, really excited. I feel honored," she said.

Billy Ray Cyrus tied Mai with four nominations thanks to the success of "Old Town Road," and the country singer has a chance of winning his first AMA in 26 years (he won two awards in 1993). Lil Nas X picked up five nominations.

DJ-producer Avicii earned a posthumous nomination for favorite electronic dance music artist, K-pop all-stars BTS picked up three nominations, while Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper earned two nominations, including collaboration of the year for "Shallow" and favorite soundtrack for "A Star Is Born," which will compete with "Bohemian Rhapsody" and "Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse."

Lizzo extends the writing credits for her hit 'Truth Hurts'

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Lizzo is sharing writing credit on her hit song "Truth Hurts" with the creator behind the not with two other writers it." who claim they also contributed to the track.

"Truth Hurts" features the popular line, "I just took a DNA test, turns out I'm 100 percent that bitch," which originated from a 2017 tweet by singer Mina Lioness and was turned into a popular meme. On Wednesday Lizzo wrote on social media that Lioness "is the person I am sharing my success with."

The line was also used in Lizzo's song "Healthy," created in 2017 with the songwriting brothers Justin and Jeremi-

ah Raisen. The Raisens feel they deserve writing credit on "Truth Hurts" as a result, though Lizzo wrote they "had nothing to do with the song's signature line, but line or how I chose to sing

> "The men who now claim a piece of 'Truth Hurts' did not help me write any part of the song. There was no one in the room when I wrote 'Truth Hurts' except me, Ricky Reed, and my tears. That song is my life, and its words are my truth," Lizzo wrote Wednesday.

> In addition, Lizzo's lawyer Cynthia Arato announced Wednesday that a lawsuit has been filed to establish that the Raisens, as well as Justin "Yves" Rothman, are not entitled to any credit for the song.



Musical artist Lizzo performs at The Hollywood Palladium, Friday, Oct. 18, 2019, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

The lawsuit, filed in federal court in California, notes the Raisens "expressly withdrew any claim to "Truth Hurts," in writing, in April of this year, and subsequently

assured Lizzo, again in writing, that they were making no claims to the work."

The songwriters credited on "Truth Hurts," which is spending its seventh week at No.

1 on Billboard's Hot 100 chart, are Lizzo, Ricky Reed, Tele and Jesse Saint John. After the claim made by the Raisens, CeCe Peniston wrote on Instagram that Lizzo's "Juice" plagiarizes her classic '90s hit, "Finally," calling it "a clear example of #copyrightinfringement." "Truth Hurts" was originally

released in September 2017 but got a boost this year after it was featured in the Netflix film "Someone Great," released on April 19, the same day Lizzo dropped her album, "Cuz I Love You."

The song wasn't originally featured on the 11-track "Cuz I Love You," but her record label added it to the deluxe version of the album, released on May 3.



Hollywood said 'no' to Deon Taylor, so he made his own path

By LINDSEY BAHR Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Deon Taylor doesn't take no for an answer when it comes to filmmaking. And it's a word he hears all the time. When no one wanted to make his first film, he made it himself and even persuaded Rutger Hauer to be in it. When the studio said they couldn't afford Oscarnominated cinematographer Dante Spinotti for his

latest, "Black and Blue," Taylor opened up his wallet and paid Spinotti himself. And when he realized the press schedule for his racially themed action film didn't include places like Dallas, Cleveland, Detroit and his hometown of Gary, Indiana, he made his own plans to reach those markets

Taylor knows that some people think he's crazy for all the extra things he does.



This image released by Sony Pictures shows Naomie Harris, left, and Tyrese Gibson in a scene from "Black and Blue," in theaters on Oct. 25.

Associated Press

But that refusal to be dissuaded was the only way this kid from Gary, who never had any formal filmmaking training, was going to become a director. And after 15 years of doing it his way — independently—Hollywood is finally taking notice.

This year Taylor has two films being distributed by a major studio, Sony Pictures' Screen Gems: "The Intruder," a thriller with Michael Ealy and Meagan Good that became a solid hit in May, and "Black and Blue," a fast-paced police corruption tale starring Naomie Harris and Tyrese Gibson, that opens nationwide Thursday night. It's something he's just starting to process himself.

The 43-year-old is a bundle of enthusiasm on a recent afternoon in Los Angeles in his Hidden Empire Film Group offices where he's on speaker phone fielding interview questions with Gibson and Harris from smaller websites (another of his initiatives). His office is covered in posters of his movies, storyboards for his next project, "Fatale," which is due out next year from Lionsgate, and even a basketball hoop.

The last item is a nod to Taylor's professional basketball career, where his filmmaking ambition really started to develop. In 1998 he found himself playing under contract in East

Germany. It was freezing there and he didn't speak the language so he spent most of his free time watching the boxes of DVDs that his girlfriend would send him, learning about the craft from the commentary tracks. It was there he came up with an idea for a horror movie, wrote what he thought was a script ("It was a novel") and when he got back to California decided to fully commit to becoming a filmmaker.

"I completely went like an Aquarius after this dream and forgot everything I was doing in my former life," he said. "I became consumed by film." For six years, he knocked on doors first trying to get someone to make his film and then trying to get money to make it himself. On the journey, he discovered that there were some "lines" in Hollywood that people weren't prepared to cross just yet.

"I had a horror movie, and I'm a black director," Taylor said. "I would walk into rooms and they'd be like, 'What do you got? 'Boyz n the Hood?' And I'm like, 'No I've got this great horror movie' and they're like, 'No no, slow down.""

Along the way he met Robert F. Smith, the billionaire philanthropist, and they started Hidden Empire Film Group, which they run with Taylor's wife Roxanne Avent. He learned on the fly what he liked and what

he didn't in low-budget film-making and that's when he developed a love for cinematographers and all the craftspeople that make a film look and sound good. "I'm looking at it like basketball now. You go like, 'Who's my shooter? Who plays defense? Who rebounds?" he explained. "I started looking at film like a sport like, 'Oh, you got to go get a team.' And I start searching for stars in that world."

Movies changed Taylor's life. As a kid whose family didn't have enough money to travel, he learned about places and people through films. "Boyz n the Hood" showed him Los Angeles. "Do the Right Thing" did that for New York. And he started thinking about his own projects as a way to educate his 14-year-old self. "As I grew as a filmmaker I started to think: What are you saying? There are so many filmmakers out here, black and white, who aren't saying (expletive)," Taylor said. "Adversity became the center of my films.'

With "Supremacy," he tackled a real life case of a white supremacist who takes a black family hostage; In "Traffik," it was sex trafficking in the United States. And, for Taylor, it's all been building up to this moment with "Black and Blue," which he helped infuse with themes about police distrust and justice.





Rose McGowan sues alleging intimidation by Weinstein, others

By ANDREW DALTON **Associated Press**

LOS ANGELES (AP) - ACtress Rose McGowan filed a federal lawsuit Wednesday alleging that Harvey Weinstein and two of his former attorneys engaged in racketeering to silence her and derail her career before she accused him of rape.

The suit filed in Los Angeles names as defendants Weinstein, attorneys David Boies and Lisa Bloom and their law firms, and Black Cube, an Israeli intelligence firm hired by Weinstein.

The lawsuit alleges that the defendants conspired to defraud, smear and marginalize McGowan as she was preparing to name Weinstein during the run-up to the explosion of the #MeToo movement late in 2017. The suit comes on the heels of a pair of recent books that detail Weinstein and his team's efforts to keep his accusers quiet.

"Harvey Weinstein was able to perpetrate and cover up decades of violence and control over women because he had a sophisticated team working on his behalf to systematically silence and discredit his victims," Mc-Gowan said in a statement. "My life was upended by their actions, and I refuse to be intimidated any longer."

Weinstein's attorney Phyllis Kupferstein said Mc-Gowan is "a publicity seeker looking for money" and her suit is meritless.

"From the moment she sought a \$6 million dollar payout in return for not making these baseless allegations, which we rejected at the time, we knew that she was waiting for an opportune time such as this to begin her suit," Kupferstein said.

Emails seeking comment from the other defendants were not immediately returned.

McGowan, 46, known for her role in the "Scream" movie franchise, was one



In this Oct. 27, 2017, file photo, actress Rose McGowan speaks at the inaugural Women's Convention in Detroit.

of the earliest and one of the most prominent of dozens of women to accuse Weinstein of sexual misconduct, making her a major figure in the #MeToo movement.

McGowan had been states. tweeting in 2017 that she was preparing to name her rapist in a forthcoming memoir, "Brave," which was published the following year.

The lawsuit alleges that the defendants used spies posing as women's rights advocates and journalists to obtain a copy of the memoir, illegally recorded her conversations, and smeared her to those in the entertainment industry who were working on projects with her.

Hers is one of several lawsuits, along with criminal charges, against Weinstein stemming from the sexual misconduct allegations, including a defamation suit from actress Ashley Judd.

But McGowan's lawsuit goes further than most in sexual harassment and in including the team around Weinstein, alleging that they illegally conspired to intimidate her, other victims, and journalists attempting to tell their

"Weinstein enlisted others — including his co-Defendants in this case — as co-

conspirators, all working with a single mission: to protect Weinstein's reputation, suppress negative information about him, and silence and discredit his accusers," the lawsuit

The lawsuit heavily cites and repeats stories detailed in the recently released books "Catch and Kill" by New Yorker writer Ronan Farrow, and "She Said" by Jodi Kantor and Megan Twohey.

Both books delve in to the work done for Weinstein by Boies and Bloom, two of the most prominent and visible attorneys in the nation, who both faced heated criticism for representing the movie mogul became known.

Boies is best known for defending Al Gore during the disputed 2000 presidential election. Bloom, like her mother and fellow attorney Gloria Allred, is primarily known as a women's rights attorney who often represents women assault cases.

The lawsuit alleges that Bloom approached Mc-Gowan and Farrow as an ally in an attempt to get them to back off Weinstein, without revealing that she was working for him to revive his reputation.

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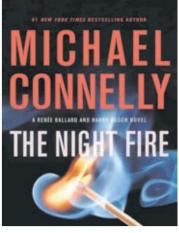
Bloom's attorney, Eric M. George, said in a statement that it "is inexcusable that Ms. McGowan chose to include my client in her lawsuit. Facts matter. There is simply no credible factual or legal basis for her claims against my client."

An email to Boies seeking comment was not immediately returned.

The suit seeks both compensatory and punitive damages to be determined at trial, and an injunction forbidding further misconduct toward Mc-Gowan.

"McGowan has suffered tremendously from Defendants' conspiracy and lies," the suit states." Her book sales suffered; her expenses mounted; her job opportunities vanished; and her emotional health cratered. She has experienced trauma and depression from defendants' actions, and the deep betrayal will have life-long effects." Weinstein, 67, is scheduled for trial in January on charges alleging that he raped an unidentified woman in his Manhattan hotel room in 2013 and performed a forcible sex act on a different woman in 2006. The former movie mogul

has denied all allegations of non-consensual sex.



This cover image released by Little, Brown and Co. shows "The Night Fire," by Michael Connelly.

Associated Press

Bosch and Ballard combine forces in "The Night Fire"

By JEFF AYERS **Associated Press**

"The Night Fire," Little, Brown and Co., by Michael Connelly

In "The Night Fire" by Michael Connelly, John Jack Thompson, Harry Bosch's first mentor when he became a police officer, dies. He leaves behind a gift for Bosch: a murder book that highlights a cold case from almost 30 years ago.

At first glance the crime appears to be a simple drug deal gone wrong, but it was never resolved. Though he is officially retired, Bosch keeps busy working on cases, and he decides to take this one to his friend, Detective Renee Ballard, who works the night shift for the Los Angeles police department.

They made a promise to work together on cases when they can, and he feels this is one is worth pursuing since it was important enough for his former partner to have taken the case files with him when he retired.

Ballard lands a case in a homeless encampment that seems on the surface to be a simple accident where a man sleeping inside a tent knocked over a heater and burned to death. Looking over the evidence, she begins to realize something doesn't quite feel right.

In addition to these two cases, Bosch reluctantly agrees to assist his halfbrother Mickey Haller with his defense of a client who left DNA behind at the murder scene.



Lovers of slime can gear up and get drenched at NYC pop-up

By LEANNE ITALIE Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP)—Slime, the bedazzled, stretchy sensation that has spawned its own social media influencers and fans of all ages, is taking up residence in New York City.

An immersive, 8,000-squarefoot (743.22-sq. meter) museum dedicated to all things slime opens Friday for a nearly six-month celebration complete with a sticky barefoot lake walk and DIY bar. There's also the opportunity to don goggles and a poncho and get doused in the stuff that has a big following but a questionable impact when it comes to disposal and the environment.

The brainchild of Karen Robinovitz, Sara Schiller and Toni Ko, the so-called Sloomoo Institute is the latest in Instagram-friendly pop-ups (hello "Friends" 25th anniversary and Museum of Ice Cream) to hit New York and then travel to other locales. Why Sloomoo? There's a thing in the slime community where you replace the vowels in your name with "oo," so slime = sloomoo.

The idea, the co-founders said during a pre-opening tour, is simple: To spread slime's powers of rejuvenation and relaxation. Skeptical? There's a nook with an EEG machine to actually show your brain on slime.

There's also a glow-in-thedark cove and an ASMR tunnel for slime's visual and auditory qualities, further ballyhooing the restful and spine-tingly autonomous sensory meridian response that has exploded in notalking videos on YouTube. "The social media aspect of slime has really shown



This Oct. 21, 2019, photo shows a timeline of the history of slime during a preview of the Sloomoo Institute in New York.

Robinovitz said. "There's a lot of sensibility in the world that social media can isolate people. What we've seen in the slime world is that people

There are slime conventions, online shops and meet-and-greets with top influencers that draw thousands of fans at a time.

are coming together."

community,"

Nichole Jackylne, 23, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, is a top slimer enlisted by Sloomoo. She's been on YouTube since 2013, taking on fashion and other content before she settled on slime nearly three years

"I found out how to make slime on Pinterest and just went from there," Jackylne said as she sat in the museum's front window with a huge tub of pink slime on her lap, rows of Elmer's glue aallon juas on shelves behind her. "I never thought, even for a million years, that I would be making a

living off slime." Jackylne brings in between \$5,000 and \$10,000 a month from merchandise and slimemaking supplies she sells online. That doesn't take into account her YouTube ad income and partnerships. She has nearly a million followers on YouTube.

"I consider myself more of a slime lifestyle personality," Jackylne said. "I don't just post slime. I try to keep it about my personality, so I'll film blogs of myself shopping for slime supplies or just out in the public making slime content."

Not exclusively solid or liquid, slime is often made — to the bane of germophobes and neatnik parents — by mixing the mineral-based cleaning product Borax, glue and water, along with liquid scents, coloring and "toppings" that are all the rage, including tiny toys and plastic-based glitter. Some variations are made with clay.

The varieties and scents are endless. Noting glitter and other potential eco-foes were deliberately left out of Sloomoo's slime, Robinovitz showed off varieties that pull like weightless clouds (fake snow is mixed in), crackle because of plastic beads inside or shine with a high gloss and a tough pull. At the DIY bar, where 8 ounces of slime is included in the \$38 base ticket price,

I don't do Play-Doh, because Play-Doh gets stuck. The slime doesn't really get stuck on anything."

Technically speaking, slime is a cross-linked polymer scientifically known as a "non-Newtonian fluid." Its history stretches back to the 1830s, when polymer science originated and Nathaniel Hayward and Friedrich Ludersdorf concluded that adding sulfur to raw, natural rubber prevented it from getting sticky.

As toys, and in TV and film, slime has been a part of the cultural landscape for decades. Silly Putty went to the moon on Apollo 8 in 1968. The 1962 movie "Son of Flubber" starred goopy slime that could fly and spawned a toy product called Flubber, but it made people sick and was yanked from the market, according to a timeline on two walls at Sloomoo.

Mattel launched a jiggly slime as a toy in 1976. It came in a plastic garbage can. Nickelodeon has been all in on slime for years, since it rebroadcast a Canadian show, "You Can't Do that On Television," starting in the 1980s. The show slimed participants who answered questions with "I don't know." The network launched its own slimy show, "Double Dare," in 1986 and has been sliming celebrity winners of its Kids' Choice Awards since 1987.

In 2014, slime videos from Thailand spread around the globe and the DIY slime phenomenon took particularly among young

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scents include banana cream pie, Froot Loops and prickly pear. The get-slimed experience is \$30 extra. Hand wipes are liberally

distributed throughout Sloomoo with the plea that people use them before and after touching the huge bowls of slime placed along a walking route. The slime will be changed throughout each day.

Michelle Diaz, 36, the mother of two girls — 16 and 11 - regularly makes slime at home. Does she mind the mess?

"I do but it's inevitable sometimes," she laughed as she and her oldest daughter, Iyanna, peaked into Sloomoo's window as Jackylne stretched and twirled her creation. "We make it different ways, with stuff out of your cupboard, from flour to Vaseline. But



This Oct. 21, 2019, photo shows Sara Schiller stretching cloud slime during a preview of the Sloomoo Institute in New York. **Associated Press**



This Oct. 21, 2019, photo shows a detail of Sloomoo's cove during a preview of the Sloomoo Institute in New York.